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CONTENTS

NOTICE TO READERS: • indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

ALBANIA

European Parliament Delegates End Visit, Depart *[ATA]* 1
Minister Kapllani's UN Statement on SFRY *[ATA]* 1
Government To Support Former Political Prisoners *[ATA]* 3
Government Issues Statement on Hunger Strikers *[ATA]* 3
Trade Unions Support Demands of Strikers *[ATA]* 3
Government Recognizes Kosovo Independence *[ATA]* 4
Unions Support Kosovo Independence Decision *[ATA]* 4
Alia Receives Shkoder Trade Unionists *[ATA]* 4
Democratic Party National Conference Starts *[ATA]* 5
Sali Berisha Elected Democratic Party Chairman *[Tirana Radio]* 5

BULGARIA

Baker Praises 'Constructive' Foreign Policy *[BTA]* 6
Chlorine From Romania Again Pollutes Ruse Air *[BTA]* 6
Popov Summons Romanian Envoy *[BTA]* 6
Zhelev Cancels Iliescu Visit *[Sofia Radio]* 6
Reportage on Kozloduy Nuclear Power Plant 7
Repairs on 6th Reactor *[BTA]* 7
Personnel Lack Threatens Safety *[24 CHASA 21 Sep]* 7
International Control Welcomed *[BTA]* 7
Ecoglasnost Appeals to Zhelev on Black Sea *[BTA]* 7

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Havel Discusses Czech, Slovak Relations *[Prague Radio]* 8
Meciar Calls Havel Speech 'Misguided' *[Bratislava Radio]* 9
KDH: Havel's Referendum Reasons 'Insufficient' *[SLOVENSKY DENNIK 26 Sep]* 10
SNR To Resist Pressure From Federal Assembly *[Bratislava PRAVDA 25 Sep]* 11
Opinion Poll Reveals Preferences on State Setup *[LIDOVE NOVINY 25 Sep]* 11
Slovakia Summons Hungarian Consul on Border Issue *[MTI]* 12

HUNGARY

Slovak Foreign Minister Summons Consul General *[Budapest Radio]* 13
Defense Conference: Bush Decision 'Correct Step' *[Budapest Radio]* 13
Transylvanian Government-in-Exile Dissolved *[Budapest Radio]* 13
Yugoslav Charges of Airspace Violations Unfounded *[MTI]* 13
Finance Minister Kupa Views 1992 State Budget *[MTI]* 13
Denies Secret IMF Talks *[NEPSZABADSAG 26 Sep]* 14

POLAND

Deputies Approve Amendments to Budget Law *[PAP]* 16
Defense Budget Appears 'Horrifyingly Small' *[Warsaw TV]* 16
Operation, Problems of Zloty Revaluation Discussed *[SZTANDAR MLODYCH 23 Sep]* 16
IMF Decision To Withhold Credit Reported *[Warsaw Radio]* 17
Walesa Confers With Centrist Politicians *[POLSKA ZBROJNA 24 Sep]* 17

Solidarity Chief Reports on Meeting With Bielecki *[RZECZPOSPOLITA 24 Sep]* 18
Solidarity Leader Views Union's Tactics *[RZECZPOSPOLITA 23 Sep]* 18
Lithuanian, Polish Officials Discuss Minorities *[Vilnius Radio]* 19
Economic, Trade Agreement Signed With Latvia *[PAP]* 19

ROMANIA

Presidency Communique Condemns Cornea TV Speech *[Bucharest Radio]* 20
Communique on Results of Iliescu, Miners Talks *[ROMPRES]* 20
Cosma Allegedly Drugged, Urges Miners To Stay *[Vienna TV]* 21
Parliament Meets; Disagreement on Agenda Reported *[ROMPRES]* 21
Police Press Department Reports Injuries *[ROMPRES]* 21
Petrila Union Leader Issues Statement *[ROMPRES]* 21
'Fratia' Elects New Leadership, Rejects Violence *[ROMPRES]* 22
Roman on Defense, Interior Ministries Cooperation *[Bucharest Radio]* 22
Iliescu: Election Preparation Will Take Months *[ROMPRES]* 22
Political Situation, Army Power Struggle Viewed *[Vienna TV]* 22
Riot Police Move To Disperse Miners *[AFP]* 23
Rally of Solidarity With Miners Held in Timisoara *[ROMPRES]* 24
Defense Ministry: Army 'Fulfilling Duties' *[Bucharest Radio]* 24
Miners in Maramures Announce Sep 27 Strike *[ROMPRES]* 24
Miners' Leader Cosma Leaves Bucharest by Train *[Bucharest Radio]* 24
Reportage on Party Leaders' Meetings With Iliescu 24
MER Leaders Received *[ROMPRES]* 24
PDAR Views Reported *[ROMPRES]* 25
PNL's Campeanu Interviewed *[Bucharest Radio]* 25
Parliamentary Group Presents Views *[ROMPRES]* 26
PUNR's Ceontea Views Talks *[ROMPRES]* 26
Cartel Supports Unity Government *[ROMPRES]* 26
PSDT Leaders Suggest Solution *[ROMPRES]* 26
Iliescu Visit to Jiu Valley Reported Postponed *[Bucharest Radio]* 26
Jiu Miners Not 'Prepared' *[AFP]* 26
Iliescu Stresses Competence, Consensus to Press *[ROMPRES]* 27
Jiu Company Manager Explains Miners' Situation *[ROMPRES]* 27
Miners' Union Federation Rejects Miners Actions *[Bucharest Radio]* 27
Roman Chairs FSN Steering Collegium Session *[ROMPRES]* 27
Interior Minister: Forces Fulfilled Their Duty *[Bucharest Radio]* 28
Roman Asks For New Elections; Denies Resignation *[AFP]* 28
Jiu Valley Miners Begin Normal Working Week *[Bucharest Radio]* 29
Press Reaction to Latest Events Reported *[ROMPRES]* 29
PUNR Leaders Views Hungarian Protests, Actions *[Bucharest Radio]* 29
Free Trade Union Leader Views Movement's Spread *[Budapest Radio]* 30
Coposu Reelected PNT-CD President *[ROMPRES]* 30
Campeanu Views 'Fundamental Obligation' of SRI *[LIBERTATEA 23-24 Sep]* 30
Cluj Police Report Uranium Tablets Stolen *[ROMPRES]* 31
Ministry Rejects Bulgarian Pollution Allegations *[ROMPRES]* 31

YUGOSLAVIA

Federal

Presidency Protests Mesic Message on Toxic Gas *[TANJUG]* 32
Military Denies Using Chemical Weapons *[AFP]* 32
Mitrovic Links Foreign Services, Crisis *[TANJUG]* 32
Kostic: Stop 'Ustasha' Ideology in Croatia *[Belgrade Radio]* 32
Prime Minister Estimates 'Disintegration' Cost *[TANJUG]* 33
Secretariat Reopens Croatian, Slovenian Airspace *[TANJUG]* 33
Istria Command To 'Protect' Pula Army Barracks *[TANJUG]* 34
New Pula Garrison Naval Commander Assumes Duties *[TANJUG]* 34
Navy Removes Korcula Island Blockade *[Zagreb Radio]* 34
Uzice Garrison Command Denounces 600 Deserters *[TANJUG]* 34
BORBA Poll Shows Popularity of Politicians *[TANJUG]* 35

International

Loncar Addresses UN General Assembly Session *[TANJUG]* 35
Mesic Cited on Meeting With Perez de Cuellar *[TANJUG]* 36
Mesic Comments on Meetings in Washington *[TANJUG]* 36
Red Cross Suspends Activities 'Temporarily' *[TANJUG]* 37

Slovenia

Interior Minister on Passport Requirements *[TANJUG]* 37
Swiss May Guarantee Slovenian Currency *[TANJUG]* 37

Croatia

Slovenia, Croatia Agree To Coordinate Moves *[TANJUG]* 38
Government Rejects Loncar, Backs UN Resolution *[TANJUG]* 38
Ministry Calls for Disbanding Illegal Formations *[TANJUG]* 38
Croatian Defense Law Comes Into Force *[TANJUG]* 39
Party of Yugoslavs Chairman Resigns *[TANJUG]* 39
Army Reportedly Uses Toxic Gas in Vinkovci *[Zagreb Radio]* 39
Zagreb Radio Reports Downing Plane Near Osijek 39
Shelling Continues From Baranja Along Drava River *[Zagreb Radio]* 40
Serbian 'Terrorists' Continue Pakrac Attacks *[Zagreb Radio]* 40
Zagreb Radio Says Air Attacks 'Flatten' Dobrovac 40
3 Bombs Dropped Over Sibenik; One Person Injured *[Zagreb Radio]* 40

Serbia

Jovanovic Criticizes Baker UN Statement *[TANJUG]* 40
Government Adopts Measures on Prices *[TANJUG]* 41
Assembly Conclusions on Army, Mobilization *[TANJUG]* 41

Bosnia-Hercegovina

General Mobilization Announced in Bosanska Krajina *[Sarajevo Radio]* 41

Macedonia

Ministry Tells Conscripts To Ignore Call-Up *[TANJUG]* 42
Albanians Demand Rights in Protest Rallies *[TANJUG]* 42

Montenegro

Bulatovic Satisfied With Defense Preparations *[Belgrade Radio]* 42
Opposition Calls for Vukcevic To Resign *[TANJUG]* 43

European Parliament Delegates End Visit, Depart

AU2709131691 Tirana ATA in English 1033 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Text] Tirana, September 27 (ATA)—The chairman of the supreme court, Mr. Kleanth Koci received the delegation of the European Parliament led by Mr. Glyn Ford on September 26.

At the beginning Mr. Glyn Ford said that this is the last meeting of our study visit in Albania with the objective to see what our parliament can do to help Albania in this stage. We are interested, he said, to know how the legal system changes in Albania. We visited two prisons and their organization should be changed. We think, he stressed, that the death sentence in the penal code should be considered again.

Mr. Kleanth Koci said that during 45 years the fundamental human rights and freedoms have been gravely violated. Then he told the members of the delegation of the efforts underway to create a contemporary legislation of European level. He spoke for the work of the Supreme Court to review the unjust decisions and added that we are exerting control on penal cases in which we are noticing violations of the juridical norms and the human rights.

At the end, the leader of the delegation, Mr. Glyn Ford stressed that, according to his opinion,the European Community has a lot to do to help Albania. We in our country have also problems, but your problems are great and important.

Besides this, the delegation of the European Parliament led by Mr. Glyn Ford, visited one of the reeducation centers (the jails) in Tirana. The members of the delegation met and talked with the director of the prisons' department Edmond Caja.

The European parliamentarians saw the living and working conditions as well as the food of the detainees and talked with some of them.

On the same day, the delegation of the European Parliament led by Mr. Glyn Ford left our country.

Minister Kapllani's UN Statement on SFRY

AU2709123391 Tirana ATA in English 1001 GMT 27 Sep 91

["Statement of the Foreign Minister of the Republic of Albania Mr. Muhamet Kapllani on the Situation in Yugoslavia"—ATA headline]

[Text] Tirana, September 26 (ATA)—The convocation of this meeting of the UN Security Council shows that the Yugoslav crisis is today a concern not only to Europe but also to the whole of international community. It shows of the responsibility of this community by means of the UN organization to solve in a peaceful way and avoid crisis menacing peace, security and the establishment of a new order throughout the world. Experience reveals that lack of stability even in a sole region or country becomes a factor of general insecurity.

The Republic of Albania has hailed and supported all the initiatives for peaceful solution to the Yugoslav crisis. It abides by the view that the use of violence to solve the Yugoslav crisis is the most dangerous road to peace and security. It is indispensable for the European Community to mediate between the opposition parties for the peaceful solution to the Yugoslav crisis. This is also a right stemming from the UN Charter and CSCE documents.

In order to solve the Yugoslav crisis, the international community should take into consideration the whole of factors causing this crisis and the interests of the peoples living in Yugoslavia. It should concentrate its efforts on the observation of the will of these peoples. But as long as the recognition of this principle is done in a differentiated and selective way, there will be no solution to the Yugoslav crisis or it will be temporary and unstable, something which would have been of unprecedented impact for our region and Europe.

As Yugoslavia's direct neighbour, the Republic of Albania is fully right to worry over the very grave situation in Yugoslavia particularly when it is about Serbia's direct military threat to the other parts of Yugoslavia and Kosovo, bordering Albania and where half of the Albanian nation lives. The use of military violence against the Albanians in Yugoslavia would lead the Albanian people to a Serbian-Albanian conflict which would bring about an armed reaction and conflict with very dangerous and unprecedented consequences to peace in the Balkans and Europe.

The new realities created in Yugoslavia, the inability of federal structures to perform their functions, lack of political will of opposition sides to find a solution by means of compromise and for peaceful dialogue may give birth to a general armed conflict with great consequences.

The proclamation of independence by Slovenia and Croatia and that of sovereignty by Kosovo, Macedonia and Bosnia-Hercegovina witness that the structures created in the course of communist totalitarian regime do not express the will of the peoples of Yugoslavia. Yugoslavia is the only country in Europe that has not conducted the free elections on federation level. After the free elections conducted at republics' level, the ideological conflict too was added to the conflicts that have constantly prevailed in Yugoslavia because of the violent and artificial unification of peoples with different cultures, histories, languages and religion.

While the Bolshevik system was overthrown, in some other regions as in Serbia, it not only won in the elections, but became still more aggressive. Lack of compromise between the national communist regime on the one hand and the democratic one on the other, made

such republics as Slovenia and Croatia ask cessation from the unitarianist state Serbia wanted to create. It is for this reason that the commitment of the European Community to defend peace and democracy in Yugoslavia, is a great expectation to put an end to the conflict in that country. But if it fails international community should examine the possibility of resorting to other means and alternatives which have proved to be effective in such cases when peace and international security are seriously risked. In case it continues to abide by the view of Yugoslavia's unity, then such a thing would but encourage the centrist and unitarianist forces and the army dominated by the Serbs to step up the use of violence to maintain a Yugoslavia even against its peoples' will.

What aroused reaction amongst the democratic forces in and outside Yugoslavia is the fact that the constitutional order has long since been violated. To this testifies the occupation of Kosovo and the efforts for the occupation of Slovenia and Croatia, and the army coming out of the constitutional control, etc.

The Republic of Albania abides by the view that the solution to the Yugoslav crisis should have in its foundation the principle of the self-determination of the peoples, attained by peaceful and democratic means, according to the UN Charter and the Helsinki documents. No act violating this principle can be legitimate, either stable, as proved by time. In this context, we uphold that the application of this principle should exclude none of the peoples, which has the right to speak and decide upon their future through peaceful and democratic means. The borders set proceeding from the reality and mentality of the dawn of century cannot serve today as recipes for the fulfillment of the aspirations of every people and nation to live free or united, to create and live in the system of government they want to.

On this occasion I want to draw the attention on the tragic situation of the Albanian people living in Yugoslavia. The Albanians in Yugoslavia are the most oppressed and persecuted people in Europe after World War Two. They are victim of a policy of genocide by Serbia, which has betrayed the consciousness of mankind through the violence exercised in Kosovo.

The Albanians' issue is known, it has been subject of examination of various European forums and organizations on human rights, parliaments and governments of Europe and the USA. It has been treated by the most important international institutions beginning with the Council of Europe, the European Parliament etc. Under the obsession of the idea of big Serbia, the Serbian regime in Kosovo opposes any democratic process.

It is a decade that the Albanians in Yugoslavia are facing greater brutality and oppression of any individual and collective freedom and right. Whereas since July 1990 Serbia's repressive policy was "completed" with fresh means of violence and terror, after the legitimate declaration of the Parliament of Kosovo on proclaiming the independent republic from Serbia, the latter dissolved the parliament, the government, closed down the Albanian radio-television, and banned the publication of newspapers in the Albanian language. On the other side the Albanian workers were dismissed from work. In this way the wave of Stalinist-type purges began against the Albanian specialists in the health service, education etc. Henceforth an unprecedented violence in the modern history of the European states started in the cultural, political, economic and social field. This policy which combines the brutality with the anti-Albanian Serbian chauvinism, has transformed Kosovo in the middle of Europe into a collective prison for the Albanian people within Yugoslavia, separating it with a new Berlin wall from the half of the Albanian nation living in the Republic of Albania. This is a policy which has caused grave wounds in the body and spirit of the Albanian people depriving the Albanian people of the right for material, cultural and spiritual development, the right of self-governing, fast information in the mother tongue, health service and education, depriving the Albanian people of the political and civil rights sanctioned not only in the international documents where Yugoslavia takes part, but also the rights deriving from the constitution in force in Yugoslavia. This policy of genocide which puts at stake the existence of people, embarrasses and endangers other people of Yugoslavia, has led to civil war and to the Yugoslav crisis.

Albania abides by the viewpoint that it is a natural right of any people to be free. Therefore this is the right of the Albanians in Yugoslavia to enjoy the freedom they are looking for. Violence and terror they have lived through since prior to World War Two and later on the organized terror since 1981, transformed this natural right into an indispensability for their historic existence. Proceeding from this experience the legitimate representatives of the Albanian people adopted on September 22, 1991, in a legitimate and democratic way, the resolution on the Republic of Kosovo as a sovereign and independent state enjoying the right to constituent participation in the league of the sovereign states or republics in Yugoslavia. This decision of the Assembly of Kosovo is full of legitimacy because firstly it relies on the free expression of the political will of the citizens and is a major achievement in the further promotion of the democratic processes of the republic of Kosovo.

The Albanians in Yugoslavia have not been and are not a minority, because they are the third population as for their number after the Serbs and the Croatians. They also account for half of the whole Albanian nation. They cannot be treated as a minority in any way. The Albanian people want what belongs to them according to the principles of democracy, consciousness of mankind, to enjoy the loftiest rights and assume the greatest responsibility in the people's community.

Government To Support Former Political Prisoners

AU2709131991 Tirana ATA in English 1039 GMT 27 Sep 91

["Decision on the Economic Support of the Former Political Prisoners"—ATA headline]

[Text] Tirana, September 27 (ATA)—On the proposal of the Ministry of Finances and the Committee of Social Support, the Council of Ministers decided:

1. The Albanian nationals, former political detainees, not employed, who do not fulfill the conditions for pension or are unable to work, will receive from the state a monthly pay of 550 leks. This pay should be given by the executive committee of the cities and regions and by the People's Councils of the villages.

2. The Ministry of the Public Order, within October 5, 1991, should send the executive committee of the districts the lists with the names of the former political detainees to be treated according this decision and to the Ministry of Finances the general table with their total number in every district, in order to account the necessary funds.

3. This economic support should start from September 1,1991 and will continue until the law on social support is issued.

4. The financial expenditures should be met by the state budget for 1991.

This decision enters into force immediately.

Government Issues Statement on Hunger Strikers

AU2809110891 Tirana ATA in English 0941 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] Tirana, September 28 (ATA)—The representative of the Press and Information Office of the president declared to the ATA correspondent that President Ramiz Alia is following with worry the fate of the former political detainees in the hunger strike. Considering their demands as just, he is rather preoccupied to solve them as soon as possible, in order not to force the strikers experience other sufferings.

As our public opinion already knows, the first demand of the strikers is the granting of their innocence. This question demands a legal solution. No other solution would be valuable. According to the constituent law the right for this solution belongs only to the People's Assembly. Proceeding from this, the president has talked with government organs to accelerate the work to quickly prepare the draft law which will finally solve the question of the former political detainees on juridical basis. When this draft law will be ready, the president will contribute to this question by urging the Assembly to convene and examine this question out of turn.

The hunger strikers have forwarded also economic demands which have to do with their material compensation for the period when they have been in jail, the employment, pension, housing, education of the children. Since the beginning the president has talked with the government organs and has instructed them to find out an acceptable solution, with justice and human kind heartedness.

Personally, President Ramiz Alia has continuously been interested in the situation of the former political detainees. Moreover, the first normative act he has signed as a the head of state has been the decision for the creation of a commission to examine the demands of the political detainees in order that they integrate as soon as possible as equals in the society and the daily life.

Regarding this problem, on September 27 the president forwarded to the UN specialized organs of the UNO to send legal experts to help in the full solution of the problems of the former political detainees according to the obligations towards the human rights, the spirit of the UN Charter,the Helsinki and Paris Charters.

Trade Unions Support Demands of Strikers

AU2709132991 Tirana ATA in English 1207 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Text] Tirana, September 27 (ATA)—The Confederation of the Trade Unions of Albania informs that on September 26, its leaders met with the former political detainees who are on hunger strike in Tirana. The chairman of this confederation, Kastriot Muco, expressed them their regret and powerful support for the just demands of the hunger strikers and all the political detainees and the total commitment of this trade union organization to solve this tragedy as soon as possible.

A statement of this confederation stressed that it backs up unreservedly the just demands of these representatives of the victims of the one single party system .

A statement of the Social Democratic Party of Albania stresses among others that this party backs up unreservedly the just demands of the strikers and demands their fulfillment as soon as possible as a corner stone of democracy in Albania.

The Social Democratic Party of Albania calls on the president, parliament and the government to solve the just and legitimate demands of the strikers, former political detainees.

Whereas a statement of the Albanian "Islamic Union" association stresses among others that the five demands of the hunger strikers are completely just and indisputable and they should be immediately solved.

Government Recognizes Kosovo Independence

LD2909100691 Tirana ATA in English 0905 GMT 29 Sep 91

[Text] Tirana, September 29 (ATA)—The Government of the Republic of Albania hails and endorses the resolution of the Assembly of Kosova, which defines the republic of Kosova a sovereign and independent state, with constituent right in the league of sovereign states—republics in Yugoslavia, based on freedom and full equality. This decision constitutes an authentic expression of the aspirations of the Albanian people and nation living in their territories in Yugoslavia and which constitutes the third population as for its number in relation with the other nations living in this country, in order to have the same rights the other nations and peoples of Yugoslavia have. It is the logical consequence of the decisions of the Kacanik Assembly of September 7, 1990, on the proclamation of the republic of Kosova.

The path defined by this assembly based on its constitutional authorisations on holding an all-people referendum is profoundly democratic, in compliance with the Yugoslav Constitution, international documents, the Helsinki Final Act, the Paris Charter and the right of the peoples to self-determination. The Government of the Republic of Albania considers legitimate this free and direct expression of the will of our brothers in Kosova and hopes that it will be well accosted by the other republics of Yugoslavia, the European states and the whole international community.

The observation of the free will of the Albanian people regarding the proclamation of the republic of Kosova a sovereign and independent state with constituent right in the league of the sovereign states—republics in Yugoslavia, is a real contribution to the right solution of the Yugoslav crisis.

Unions Support Kosovo Independence Decision

AU2709133391 Tirana ATA in English 1210 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Text] Tirana, September 27 (ATA)—A statement of Albanian Trade Unions Confederation hails and supports the decision of the Assembly of Kosovo to endorse the resolution of the republic of Kosovo as a sovereign and independent state.

This decision, stresses the statement, is of extreme importance for the destiny of the Albanian nation. The Albanian trade unions confederation describes the decision of the Assembly of Kosovo as a wise act of the political forces in Kosovo.

Whereas an appeal of the Albanian "Islamic Union" society says among other things that the proclamation of the republic of Kosovo as a sovereign and independent state expresses the political maturity and wisdom of the Albanians.

The Albanian "Islamic Union" association appeals to the whole Albanian public opinion and the world one, the US Congress, the European Parliament, over one milliard Muslims of the whole world, the governments of the fraternal Arab countries and all the Islamic association to devote attention and care to the Albanian cause, the Republic of Kosovo.

On its part the Social Democratic Party of Albania points out through a statement that this party hails the decision of the assembly of the legitimate representatives of the Republic of Kosovo and at the same time powerfully supports all-people referendum by means of which the Albanian people will express the legitimate will for the Republic of Kosovo as a sovereign and independent state.

Alia Receives Shkoder Trade Unionists

AU2909194691 Tirana ATA in English 0905 GMT 29 Sep 91

[Text] Tirana, September 29 (ATA)—The ATA correspondent was told by the representative of the Press and Information Bureau at the president that:

The president of the Republic of Albania, Ramiz Alia, received on September 27 in the evening an extended group of trade unionists from various enterprises of Shkoder district.

The trade unionists put forth their worry on many social issues that have emerged in this period of transition on to the market economy. Among others, they asked from government to make publicly known that the agricultural enterprises should not be touched and that they will continue to be as they are at present. They were interested in knowing when Shkoder will begin to function as a free economic zone. They voiced their reserves on the way the auction in the trade network is going to be held and above all they insisted on the opening of working fronts, considering as unjust the 80 per cent payment for a long period of time and under the difficult circumstance for the state budget. In defence of the workers' rights, they made remarks on the changes of some cadres, they demanded the issuing of the law on social assistance and the reaching of collective contracts, as well as the better definition of the trade unions status. With the legitimate civic worry they made remarks on the necessity of consolidating the juridical state, the better functioning of the organs of public order and justice etc. The trade unionists put up other issues regarding the improvement of the supply of Shkoder city with food and industrial commodities, the better activation of various factories and enterprises, especially their better supply with raw material and necessary technology.

President Ramiz Alia exchanged opinions with them on each concrete matter, and discussing on separate questions made a general analysis of the situation our country is in in this period of the transition from one economic system onto another. It is natural, he underscored, that this switch cannot fail to be accompanied by a series of sharp social problems and economic difficulties. Our care must be

focused on the fact that these problems weigh as little as possible on the working people, their daily life. Your demand to work, and not simply to have a fictitious comfort through a 80 percent payment, indicates that you realize correctly that only the work will speed up and facilitate this objectively inevitable period.

In my opinion, all the questions put up by you are correct. It is the duty of the government and economic organs to solve them. I shall submit these questions to the government to study them attentively. I think that you are right to worry on the passing of the law on social assistance, and that of collective contract, he underscored, because, otherwise the new relation of the worker with the enterprise based on the new logic of the market economy cannot be realised.

Shkoder should be assisted more by the government organs. Major possibilities of development should be created to it both in the economic and cultural, educational fields, etc., the president underscored. Undoubtedly, the Shkoder people themselves, with their initiative should contribute more, but the state organs too should have their impact on attracting foreign firms in Shkoder, for the development of small and medium, foodstuff and light industries, the modernisation of agriculture, especially the district's agricultural enterprises. The law on the free economic zone, to be issued soon for which I shall urge the Council of Ministers, will open new paths of economic development to Shkoder.

The meeting passed in a spirit of understanding, of the common embarrassment of protecting the workers' rights in front of the problems set forth by the new economic and social realities.

Democratic Party National Conference Starts

AU2909195191 Tirana ATA in English 1043 GMT 29 Sep 91

[Text] Tirana, September 29 (ATA)—The contributions of the morning sittings of September 28 of the first national conference of the DP [Democratic Party] laid the stress on the work and endeavours of the DP in the centre and its branches in the districts to forge ahead the democratic processes. Those who took the floor dwelt particularly on the better organisation of the branches of the Democratic Party and drew the attention on a better and more qualified work to attract the intellectuals in the ranks of the DP. On this issue debates took place pointing out that at the beginning of the democratic processes the intellectuals were the first to embrace the ideas, whereas at present a retreat is witnessed on their part. This is testified also by the fact that the number of delegates in the conference from the ranks of the intelligentsia of the field of culture, art, etc., is small. Special attention was devoted to the questions of the countryside, which, as the conference underscored, are more acute than ever. Delegates from the ranks of the students made remarks on the DP members in the government, who should raise their voice regarding the accomplishment of the students' demands for better teaching and living conditions in the educational institutions and their buildings. Different were the opinions on the rapprochement of the new elections underlining that in these elections the DP will participate to win, in order to uproot the communist power.

During this sitting the assembly was greeted also by the chairman of the Republican Party, Sabri Godo. Of interest was the address extended to the assembly of the DP by Prof. Rexhep Qosja, who, among others makes his assessment calling this conference an event of special importance for the Albanian nation. Later the conference was greeted by Mehmet Bardhi, on behalf of the Democratic League of the Albanians in Montenegro, the representatives of the Social-Democratic Party; of the Association of Political Prisoners, Internees and Persecuted; of the Democratic League of the Albanian Women; of the Political Patriotic Association "Cameria", by Anton Marjanushi on behalf of the Democratic League of the Albanians of Bosnia-Hercegovina; Leke Gura, on behalf of the Democratic League of the Albanians of Montenegro as well as by the representative of the Romanies' Association of Albania.

At the end of the morning sitting, Aleksander Meksi read out some of the changes in the statute of the DP on the basis of the remarks of the delegates and members of this party.

The assembly continues its proceedings.

Sali Berisha Elected Democratic Party Chairman

AU2909173891 Tirana Radio Tirana Network in Albanian 1700 GMT 29 Sep 91

[Text] This morning's session was the last in the Democratic Party's first assembly. The session began with the announcement of the results of the voting to elect the presidium of the party's national council and its president.

Delegate Ferit Hafizi, chairman of the Electoral Commission, took the floor and announced the 19-member presidium. Prof. Dr. Sali Berisha was elected Democratic Party chairman, receiving 449 of the 547 valid votes. Berisha then mounted the rostrum and greeted the assembly. The assembly went on to elect a 105-member national council. Other party forums were also elected.

Baker Praises 'Constructive' Foreign Policy

AU2909193891 Sofia BTA in English 1629 GMT 29 Sep 91

[Text] New York, September 29 (BTA)—Bulgaria's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Viktor Vulkov met with U.S. State Secretary James Baker. They expressed satisfaction with the progress of bilateral relations in all spheres. It was pointed out that the consolidation of democratic processes in Bulgaria is a guarantee for their further development. The significance of the results of President Zhelyu Zhelev's visit to the United States and Vice President Dan Quayle's visit to Bulgaria for the progress of bilateral cooperation was pointed out.

Mr. Vulkov familiarized Mr. Baker with the internal political situation in Bulgaria and with the priorities of its new foreign policy. He pointed out Bulgaria's willingness to maintain stable good-neighbourly relations with all Balkan states as well as its strivings for integration with the European and world political and economic structures and institutions.

Mr. Baker praised Bulgaria's constructive foreign policy.

Mr. Vulkov and Mr. Baker discussed the situation in Yugoslavia and pointed out that the crisis should be solved in a peaceful way, without the use of force.

Mr. Vulkov also met with the minister of foreign affairs of Greece, Andonios Samaras. They discussed the development of bilateral cooperation and the situation in the Balkans.

Chlorine From Romania Again Pollutes Ruse Air

AU2709164791 Sofia BTA in English 1552 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Text] Ruse, September 27 (BTA)—Ruse received another large dose of chlorine pollution this morning. The emission started at 8:00 am in the eastern part of the city where worried people reported poor visibility. The same was observed in the Youth Park. Later on the chlorine wave drifted to the city centre and is still in the air. According to eyewitnesses, the pollution came from the smokestack of the Giurgiu works on the opposite bank of the River Danube. They attribute their tragedy to the latest developments in Romania where "chaos and anarchy are rife and no one cares about the environment."

Besides the regular samples taken once in three hours, the laboratory of the regional environmental protection inspectorate is making additional tests, the results of which will become known early this afternoon. Mr. Stoyan Vurbanov, chief of the inspectorate, has left for Giurgiu.

Popov Summons Romanian Envoy

AU2809205291 Sofia BTA in English 0041 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] Sofia, September 27 (BTA)—Bulgaria's Prime Minister Dimitur Popov invited the Ambassador of Romania, Mr. Alexandru Petrescu, to visit him and expressed the Bulgarian Government's growing concern over the continuing pollution of the town of Ruse. Mr. Popov demanded that the Romanian Government must take urgent measures to settle the deepening environmental conflict.

A group of international experts who were today at the Ministry of the Environment left urgently for Ruse which was gas-poisoned again.

Zhelev Cancels Iliescu Visit

AU2809172491 Sofia Khorizont Radio Network in Bulgarian 1500 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] Valentin Stoyanov, spokesman for President Zhelyu Zhelev, announced that Dr. Zhelyu Zhelev, president of the Republic of Bulgaria, has authorized me to declare that, as a result of the current, complicated situation in Romania and, above all, because of the continuous gassing of the Ruse area, the visit of Romanian President Ion Iliescu to Sofia scheduled for 5 October cannot take place.

A new Bulgarian-Romanian cooperation treaty was expected to be signed on the occasion of the visit.

I am further authorized to declare that, despite all assurances on the Romanian side made at top-level meetings that measures would be adopted for halting the pollution affecting the town of Ruse, nothing has been accomplished.

If Romania should fail to adopt urgent measures for ending the ecological tragedy of this large Bulgarian town, Bulgaria will seriously consider the question of recalling our ambassador to Bucharest.

President Zhelev has declared on several occasions to the Romanian president, to the prime minister, and to other Romanian officials how inadmissible it is that such a partial but, nevertheless, painful problem should cast a shadow upon official Bulgarian-Romanian relations, which are generally good and based on long-standing historical traditions.

We expect the implementation of the measures Romania has promised to adopt to overcome the obstacles to the new development of our bilateral relations, for which promising opportunities exist and which are likely to play a positive role in the transformation of the entire Balkan region into a zone of friendship and cooperation.

Reportage on Kozloduy Nuclear Power Plant

Repairs on 6th Reactor

AU2909200491 Sofia BTA in English 0113 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] Sofia, September 27 (BTA)—Tonight Generating Unit 6 of the Kozloduy Nuclear Power Plant was plugged out of the country's energy grid. According to Mr. Kiril Nikolov, chairman of the Nuclear Power Engineering Economic Association, said that the plant was stopped due to technical considerations and that this was the usual practice in operating new power units. Unit 6 has reached a regime of stability operating at 50 percent of its capacity.

A team of experts will remove some technical defects in the 1000- megawatt turbine established in its thermal regulation and its steam and water supply. The unit will probably be put into operation by October 10.

Personnel Lack Threatens Safety

AU2709180791 Sofia 24 CHASA in Bulgarian 21 Sep 91 p 4

[Report by Dimitur Genchev]

[Text] The safety of the Kozloduy Nuclear Power Plant is on the edge of permissible levels, Mr. Ivan Selin, president of the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission, told journalists on 20 September. If measures are not taken, the plant must be closed down, he added.

He went on to say that a lack of trained personnel was the main reason for this. Scarcely 8-10 percent of the staff have the necessary training, and, until specialists are secured, all investments are pointless, even though $2 billion are needed.

We are ready to help but only after we see that the Bulgarian Government is willing to improve the plant's condition. It is indeed discussing the problems with the West but is not taking any specific action, he claimed.

Bulgaria's dependence on the Kozloduy Nuclear Power Plant must decrease because the possibilities for nuclear energy production are limited. New sources of electric power are necessary, and the plant must work at 50 percent of its nominal power, he believes.

Despite the personnel problems, the general condition of the plant is good and gives a basis for optimism, Mr. Selin pointed out and added that the positive changes that have taken place are significant. The safety of the fifth and sixth reactors is better than that of the other four reactors, which are also stable if they are exploited normally.

Nevertheless, if the plant were in California, we would certainly have closed it down, he stated.

International Control Welcomed

AU2809140991 Sofia BTA in English 2113 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Text] Sofia, September 27 (BTA)—The President of the London-based European Bank for Reconstruction and Development has sent a letter to Prof. Todor Dimchev, head of a team of Ecoglasnost experts, welcoming their proposal to set up an international consortium for the control, operation, reconstruction and ensuring the safety of the Kozloduy Nuclear Power Plant. The letter was made public at the press center of the Union of Democratic Forces (UDF) today.

According to Prof. Dimchev, there are not adequate conditions in Bulgaria to develop nuclear power engineering. The four reactors at the plant whose technology was approved on political grounds should be stopped one by one and for ever, he said. Prof. Dimchev recalled that 60 Bulgarian scholars had recently signed a special memorandum, arguing that the reconstruction of the reactors is impossible under the present conditions in Bulgaria. According to the document, which was ignored by the government, the experience so far has shown that foreign technological inspections and financial help could not be effectively used in the conditions prevailing in Bulgaria.

It became known that the 12 million ECU [European Currency Unit] granted by the European Community are not intended for the reconstruction of the plant but for carrying out an expert inspection.

In its letter the European Bank assures the Ecoglasnost experts that it will monitor the fulfilment of their project and will adopt appropriate decisions in accordance with the bank's regulations. It will also consider any request of the Bulgarian government for participation in programmes or campaigns in Kozloduy aimed at bringing the plant in line with international safety requirements and at improving radioactive waste processing.

Ecoglasnost Appeals to Zhelev on Black Sea

AU2809140591 Sofia BTA in English 2323 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Text] Sofia, September 27 (BTA)—The Ecoglasnost Independent Movement called on the Bulgarian president to issue an appeal to the heads of all Black Sea and Danube countries, to all international institutions concerned and to the Bulgarian and the world community to support the idea of declaring 1992 year of Black Sea Pollution Control. The appeal will facilitate the signing of the long-delayed international convention on the Black Sea and the working out of projects with the participation of prominent European scientists. It will help attract the attention of Bulgarian and foreign banks, it will help amend related legislation and finally it will help preserve the Black Sea for the next generations, it is said in an appeal sent to President Zhelev. The document was submitted for circulation to the press center of the Union of Democratic Forces (UDF) today.

Havel Discusses Czech, Slovak Relations

LD2909165191 Prague Ceskoslovensky Rozhlas Radio Network in Czech 1315 GMT 29 Sep 91

[Interview with President Vaclav Havel by editor Stanislava Dufkova in Lany on 28 September; from the "Conversations at Lany" program—recorded]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] [Dufkova] On Tuesday, you delivered your address to the Federal Assembly on the issue of a referendum. The citizens' attention was drawn to the issue of what a referendum is and whether a referendum can solve it all. [passage omitted]

[Havel] First of all, I should say that, in 1918, Czechoslovakia emerged as a state, not just as the result of the will of the respected representatives of the two nations—the Czechs and the Slovaks—but also as a result of the will of the victorious superpowers. The representatives of our nations knew well why they wanted a common state, and the superpowers knew it well, too. [passage omitted]

It is necessary to point out one important thing: The foundation of our state was preceded by certain agreements between the Czech and the Slovak representatives—for instance, the Cleveland agreement, the Pittsburgh agreement—and the principle of the equal rights and sovereignty of the two nations was embodied in these agreements.

It is not the case in Czech circles, but, in Slovak circles, a feeling has gradually emerged—in a way a justified feeling—that these agreements have not been observed. [passage omitted]

Why do I mention all this? Many people do not understand the purpose of the agreement planned to be concluded between the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic, what it all means. The Slovaks need to base a state on an agreement—which has in a certain way legal force, legal validity, which is in a certain way legally binding—arises because of their vivid awareness of those previously unfulfilled agreements. [passage omitted]

Many statements by those who fight for [Slovak] sovereignty, as well as documents put forward by them to the Slovak National Council, testify to the fact that the issue is not just to politically demonstrate sovereignty but also that the issue is de facto independence. This is something a bit different. This means that the Republic has or considers itself to have real, actual powers that are at present the powers of the Federation, that it intends to be a subject of international law—that is, to assume the position that is at present held by the Federation. Such a declaration or a constitution, which would embody this, is clearly breaking the existing constitutional system. This would be the beginning of the situation when dual law would apply. [passage omitted]

We would find ourselves in a situation of legal chaos, against which I have warned so many times. A referendum is one of the safeguards against such a danger. [passage omitted]

If the result of a referendum is in favor of a common state, this will be a clear, legal, constitutional, and political obligation for all the legislatures, all the constitutional officials. [passage omitted]

[Dufkova] Mr. Meciar said in Kosice that the referendum that you have called would be without an unequivocally fixed question and would lead within a short time to the destruction of the Republic. He added that politicians change but nations stay.

[Havel] I know that Mr. Meciar has had a large number of various objections to my speech. I am not, however, going to comment and analyze all these objections because, among other things, I do not understand them properly. I do not know why he said that my speech could contribute to the disintegration of the state, and his reaction is a bit incomprehensible for me. Nonetheless, inasmuch as we are already talking about Mr. Meciar, I would like to say one thing: Mr. Meciar is known for being able to criticize very forcefully and often unscrupulously on various occasions all kinds of politicians, both Slovak and Czech, and accuse them of various evil things. His public utterances are always followed by a great deal of interest because it is anticipated who will again be the subject of his attention.

This in itself would not bother me. What bothers me a bit is that this man, who is not afraid to say harsh words about anyone's speech, did not—if I remember correctly—utter harsh words on one address on which I would have most expected them and which would most probably have deserved a harsh word. That is the address about the kind of strange aggressive groups that have appeared in Slovakia: anti-Semitic groups, fascist groups, and the like.

I believe that things such as the distribution of anti-Semitic leaflets, pasting them on shops, downright fascist sentiments, and manifestations that from time to time occur there; an assault on the building of the Slovak National Council; the burning of Czechoslovak flags; the witch-hunt against Fedor Gal and the like; the desecration of Jewish graves—these are, in my opinion, very dangerous matters that have to be sharply condemned right from the beginning and, if a criminal act is involved, prosecuted.

In my view, what is somewhat lacking, not only in the case of Mr. Meciar but also in the case of other Slovak politicians, is a clear word on this matter. If Slovakia is striving to attain some kind of a higher degree of sovereignty, if it wants to stand on its own feet, then it must say clearly that it wants to be a democratic country, that it dissociates itself from these fascist manifestations, even if they are marginal and minority ones; that Slovak statehood cannot and must not be linked to anything like this. Slovakia will not win the respect of the international democratic community unless it does this totally clearly and unambiguously.

I believe that, for instance, when Mr. Slota, the mayor of Zilina, says that Slovakia will be independent by Christmas and that those who today are in favor of a common state will be put before a court as a traitor, it is an utterance the Slovak representation must condemn clearly, to say the least. This is because this is in fact a signal of how Mr. Slota envisages an independent Slovakia. This is a simple warning signal that absolutely does not help Slovakia. I could name many such examples.

I am very alarmed about the curious passivity prevailing in the case of these manifestations. No one has ever been prosecuted for breaking the law, for criminal activity for the promotion of fascism, and, when I or any of the Federal or Czech politicians have criticized it, we have been suspected of wanting to blacken Slovakia in the eyes of the international community. I have an impression that the worst thing Slovakia could do for itself is not expressing itself totally clearly and unambiguously on these phenomena. The more so because there still exists in the memory of the international public the woeful episode of the Slovak state.

[Dufkova] How do you, Mr. President, assess the view of the Slovak Government, which has recommended that the passage on the continuity of the Czechoslovak state from 1918 should be left out of the preamble of the treaty between our Republic and Germany because it, in practice, solves nothing?

[Havel] I have already commented on it on television, but I nonetheless believe it will do no harm if I repeat my view. What is confused here is the factual and real historic existence of the Slovak state, which is an undeniable fact that no reasonable man would deny, and the legal existence. That state did not emerge constitutionally. It came into being because of pressure exerted by Hitler. The then-Slovak Assembly did not have the right to violate the valid Czechoslovak Constitution, and one cannot separate that regime from its deportation of Jews and the like from that state and say that the state was good and that it existed legally and that only the regime was bad. These are two matters that cannot be separated. The whole postwar order, the whole system of all treaties, international recognition, and guarantees of borders proceeds precisely from the idea of the uninterrupted legal continuity of the Czechoslovak state, which is something that is different from the factual existence of the Slovak state. [passage omitted]

The whole legal system, which is leading toward the Helsinki Accords, is based on the principle of nullity of all legal acts, beginning with Munich and all those that follow it, and it is in the interest of all Czechoslovakia and its very existence to maintain, defend, and confirm this principle again and again in all treaties. It simply cannot be left out. It will not do.

[Dufkova] Mr. President, you would admit that we ourselves are in a crisis? How do you intend to tackle it? Can you solve it? Are you going to solve it?

[Havel] I am, of course, pleased to read in some newspapers that I represent a coping stone, some sort of hope that everything will end well, that I represent the element of integration. Nevertheless, this cannot be saved or solved by one person. It is simply absurd to hope for something like this.

As a head of our state, I consider it my duty to do everything, again and again, until my last breath, to enable our state's transformation to be carried out in a constitutional way. I am obliged to create again and again the space for a consensus, to stimulate such a consensus.

For instance, next week I want to organize some sort of a crisis meeting of all the supreme constitutional officials, and there I want to appeal to them once more to attempt to reach a consensus. I also intend to propose, to offer certain things to them.

Nevertheless, it does not depend exclusively on me whether this effort of mine is going to be successful. It requires the good political will of all. All of us bear a certain share of responsibility for this state—it is borne not only by the head of our state or its political leadership but also, in fact, by all its citizens. And, in fact, our citizens begin to feel this way—the petitions they sign testify to the fact that they are aware of the responsibility.

Meciar Calls Havel Speech 'Misguided'

LD2909114191 Bratislava Ceskoslovensky Rozhlas Radio Network in Slovak 1000 GMT 25 Sep 91

[Interview with Vladimir Meciar, chairman of the Movement for Democratic Slovakia, by correspondent Sona Jesenska; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Jesenska] Mr. Chairman, you described the president's Federal Assembly address yesterday as misguided. Why do you make this assessment?

[Meciar] I regard the president's address as very unfortunate. It was unfortunate in its content and in the sequence of the steps he proposed. The prerequisite for coexistence of any two subjects is agreement. It is impossible to make hasty steps or to make them under pressure. He spoke about his desire to create a democratic Czechoslovakia. Well, the Slovak side submitted a comprehensive proposal for a democratic Czechoslovakia within a federation, and it was not accepted. They say that what is needed is a demonstration of sovereign will, but they oppose the existence of a sovereign subject who wishes to demonstrate his sovereign will. What is being discussed is the sequence of the motions where the power to assess the quality of the Slovak National Council legislative process is transfered to the Federal Assembly, and this contradicts the Constitution. Also discussed is the sequence of the motions where the Federal Assembly should adopt by 10 October a procedural directive calling the referendum and formulating the question.

The pressure exerted by the time shortage will be detrimental to the quality and agreement between political parties. What this means is that the prerequisite that political parties would respect these matters during election campaigning and during subsequent political practice does not exist here. In addition, the president has managed to altogether omit from this process national organs, which are given the right by law to express their view on these fundamental issues in the period of two weeks. I also think the president made a mistake on not basing his very important address on an agreement between political subjects, but based it instead precisely on the dispute between these subjects and, as a result, placed before the Czech and Slovak National Councils an alternative that they should either agree on a federation or nothing would be left.

I disagree with the president's position that there can be either a federation or a disintegration of the state. This is binding, and he could have arrived at this position only because, from January until September, his attempts to adjust these relations were unsuccessful and because, in the context of his currently presented alternative of either everything or nothing, no person on the Czech political scene has, as yet, managed to define our common interests. When we define these, we shall arrive at a form of the state, but, if we elevate the form of the state above its content, then we shall, in fact, find a way toward breaking up rather than strengthening the state. And we have no wish to break up the state.

[Jesenska] You have also spoken in optimistic terms about a possible agreement between the Czech and the Slovak political scene on the republic's constitutional set up. In addition, you are convinced that the 108 Slovak National votes would support the positive solution or the positive approach to the solving of this question.

[Meciar] Yes, the agreement is still possible. This agreement is possible between political parties and movements, and the chance to reach it rests on the fact that the Slovak political scene is currently stabilizing on the confederative principle. If you consider the latest position of the Christian Democratic Movement on Sunday defining the position of the state on the principle of treaty and the status of the subject of international law—then this in fact boils down to confederation, and the Christian Democrats are going back to their original 1990 positions. By knowing the positions of our parties, I know that it is possible to create—and it could even exist, in reality—the majority system of 108 votes in the Slovak National Council, which would be capable of backing this. At the same time, is has been said that there would be some in Public Against Violence who would back it, and I think that some from Hungarian organizations will also lend their support.

The second form of agreement is between the Slovak and the Czech National Councils, but they would have to tackle things differently. Let's tackle the Common Market priorities on the principle of the Treaty of Rome. May the principle of the Treaty of Rome be valid in relations between us until the time when the residence of the federation or some other state formation is tranferred to Strasbourg. Let's tackle the issue of common interests. Let's define these common interests, for all we are doing is naming certain ministries that should exist—the president is also making a mistake in this respect—but, when we consider our common interests, we shall arrive at the content of these relations. Let's define the third issue—the joint approach to economic reform and the consequences for both republics—and we shall arrive at the principles of economic management for each republic. And, when we have hammered out these three issues, the form of the state can be only a follow-up issue. And, if they carry on with what they were doing until now, then the only conclusion will be that they will reach agreements that will be denied and (?intepreted differently) by them and at the news conference immediately after they have been signed, and, thus, they will have in fact agreed on nothing. I think that writing off these two bodies or giving them an ultimatum—either you'll reach an agreement or a referendum will be held—is incorrect. It is incorrect that the Federal Assembly should interfere, just as it was incorrect when the Federal government was given a chance to interfere. These are not original subjects forming the federation; they are only derived subjects. If the principle is building the federation from below, this then boils down to decentralization and not the principle of building the state from below.

As far as the form of the state is concerned, I think that one should say clearly: The coexistence between Czechs and Slovaks on the principle of confederation and under (?overall functional set up) is possible. This is what meets the requirements of the outside world nowadays. This is what will impart certain dimensions to us and to Central Europe, and this is what will impart an altogether different outlook for a joint development in our mutual relations and in the relations with other partners in Central Europe.

KDH: Havel's Referendum Reasons 'Insufficient'

AU2709140991 Bratislava SLOVENSKY DENNIK in Slovak 26 Sep p 1

[Statement by Jan Petrik, central secretary of the Christian Democratic Movement, issued in Bratislava on 25 September 1991: "Standpoint of the Christian Democratic Movement"]

[Text] The sociopolitical situation has been escalated [vystupnovana] by the recent talks between the presidia of the National Councils, by talks between Czech and Slovak political parties, and by the start of the fall session of the Federal Assembly.

This whole process has reached its climax with the proposal made by the president of the republic in the Federal Assembly for an expeditious calling of a referendum so that it can be held by December 1991. The Christian Democratic Movement [KDH] considers the

reasons given by the CSFR president [in his 24 September Federal Assembly speech] for calling a referendum and for accelerating the process of [deciding] the constitutional setup as insufficient.

The KDH, therefore, disagrees with the proposed term for holding the referendum on the Slovak Republic's and the Czech Republic's remaining in a common state, because: —All legislative means in the search for a democratic solution suitable for both republics have not been exhausted—that is, the drafts of a treaty between the republics on the settlement of the constitutional setup issue have not yet been submitted to the Slovak National Council and the Czech National Council. —Documents required under the 1991 constitutional law on the referendum—the law on property transfer from the CSFR to the Slovak Republic and the Czech Republic and the law on carrying out the referendum—have not yet been adopted.

We are convinced that if a referendum preceded discussions in the Slovak National Council and the Czech National Council on a settlement of relations between the two national republics, the legitimacy of the National Councils would be put in question.

[Signed] Engineer Jan Petrik, KDH central secretary
Bratislava, 25 September 1991

[On the same day, on pages 1 and 2, SLOVENSKY DENNIK publishes a 500-word survey of KDH Federal Assembly and Slovak National Council deputies' reactions to Havel's Federal Assembly speech. All of them reiterate the KDH's objections to the calling of an early referendum, suggesting that constitutions should be drawn up first, to be followed by a state treaty and only then by a referendum. Augustin Jambor, member of the Federal Assembly's People's Chamber, sees Havel's address as "evidence that the president did not discuss this issue [the referendum] with the coalition of Slovak parties" during his recent visit to Bratislava. Marian Kapusta, also a member of the Federal Assembly's People's Chamber, says that Havel "dramatized" the situation by giving the people only two choices—"either a federation of the present type or divorce, leaving no space for another kind of state entity." Kapusta therefore views Havel's speech as "not fortunate." He concludes his statement by saying: "The president apparently does not understand the situation in Slovakia too well. As Slovak National Council Chairman Frantisek Miklosko said in his television address, the problems of Slovakia are understood the best by Slovakia, which is why the referendum question ought to be approved by the Slovak National Council."]

SNR To Resist Pressure From Federal Assembly

AU2709160391 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 25 Sep 91 p 2

[Helena Michalicova, Martin Krno, CTK report: "Second Day of the 17th Meeting of the Slovak National Council: Also About the President's Address"]

[Excerpt] Bratislava—[passage omitted] At the close of yesterday's session of the Slovak National Council [SNR], SNR Chairman Frantisek Miklosko reacted to CSFR President Vaclav Havel's address in the Federal Assembly [earlier in the day]: "After contacting the Federal Assembly, I am authorized to state the following: Despite the fact that the decree on carrying out the referendum, on which we have already submitted our standpoint, and the draft constitutional law on settling property issues [between the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic in the event of the Czechoslovak federation's breakup] have been included in the agenda of the 17th joint meeting of CSFR Federal Assembly chambers, the SNR's standpoint on the constitutional law on the division of property will go through the SNR as scheduled, without the set deadline being brought forward, which means that the SNR will discuss it in all its committees without being pressed for time so that the committees are able to deliver their opinion on it in peace. Although it is true that, under the rules of procedure, we do not have the right to give our opinion on the resolution formulating the question to be put to a referendum, we believe that we will assume a clear standpoint on it in a very unequivocal and fundamental way in SNR committee discussions and, as the case may be, in the political clubs as well.

"I would only like to point out that, although matters were set in motion in such a way, the SNR as the highest [Slovak] legislative body will not be circumvented and will assume a quite clear standpoint without being constrained by any time limits."

Opinion Poll Reveals Preferences on State Setup

AU2709134991 Prague LIDOVE NOVINY in Czech 25 Sep 91 p 2

["(vil)"-signed report: "The Majority Together"]

[Text] Prague—The results of surveys carried out in September—and published yesterday by the Institute for Public Opinion Research—have confirmed that an awareness of the joint state is the strongest element in our citizens' perception of the constitutional and legal arrangement. However, different concepts such as the current federation, an "authentic" federation, and a confederation are—so far—not clear to the public.

An interesting fact is the increase in the number of Slovak supporters of a unitary state arrangement—from 10 percent to 19 percent. In the Czech Lands, a unitary state is preferred by 38 percent of respondents; supporters of a federation, 32 percent, come in second. At the same time, there are relatively few "federalists" among Moravians—25 percent of respondents. Moravia is also interesting on account of the relative balance between the number of supporters of a unitary state, 32 percent of the surveys' participants are in favor of this, and the supporters of a union arrangement, 31 percent according to the surveys. The one third of the population acknowledging a common coexistence, whether in the form of a federation (35

percent) or a confederation (24 percent), is still predominant in Slovakia. Likewise, the percentage of those in favor of an independent Slovakia has not changed significantly and is oscillating around 15 percent. As far as citizens' satisfaction with development after 17 November is concerned, foreign policy is given the highest rating and living standards are given the lowest rating. Confidence in Prime Minister Carnogursky's government is increasing slowly, and the popularity of the president and his advisers has also increased in Slovakia. Citizens' views about foreign policy are also confirmed by Minister Dienstbier's high popularity rating. He is beginning to catch up with Labor and Social Affairs Minister P. Miller in the public's popularity rankings.

[Prague HOSPODARSKE NOVINY in Czech on 25 September on page 2, under the headline "A Slight Increase in Optimism," carries a 300-word "(bed)"-signed report on the same public opinion surveys. According to the report, "67 percent of CSFR citizens are satisfied with foreign policy (74 percent in the Czech Republic and 53 percent in the Slovak Republic)." The report also states that "78 percent of CSFR citizens (74 percent in the Czech Republic and 88 percent in the Slovak Republic)" are dissatisfied with living standards.]

Slovakia Summons Hungarian Consul on Border Issue

LD2709184891 Budapest MTI in English 1509 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Text] Bratislava, September 27 (MTI)—Voicing concern at certain Government statements, including the Hungarian prime minister's, which in Slovak interpretation, indicate possible Hungarian intentions to rectify the Czechoslovak-Hungarian border if Czechoslovakia splits up, Slovak Minister of Foreign Relations Pavol Demes summoned Hungarian Consul General Jeno Boros to his office today.

In accord with its democratic nature, Boros said, the Hungarian Government headed by Jozsef Antall recognizes and observes the border-related chapters of the Helsinki Final Act and Paris Charter, rejecting forcible changes in external and internal borders.

According to Jeno Boros, this was stressed at the recent press conference of Antall and Austrian Chancellor Vranitzky.

Demes said he will do everything possible to improve relations between Slovakia and Hungary.

Speaking to MTI in Prague, Jeno Boros quoted the Slovak minister as saying that the aim of the discussion was to assure the Czechoslovak-Hungarian relationship "should no longer be burdened by such doubts, at the Polish-Czechoslovak-Hungarian summit in Krakow.

At the meeting, described as a cordial atmosphere, Demes also expressed dissatisfaction of the location of the Hungarian cultural centre in Bratislava. He said he was making efforts to get the licence for the construction of the new Hungarian cultural centre available as soon as possible.

The Slovak minister presented a letter addressed to Hungarian Foreign Minister Geza Jeszenszky to Boros.

Slovak Foreign Minister Summons Consul General

LD2709115191 Budapest Kossuth Radio Network in Hungarian 1000 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Text] The Slovak foreign minister has summoned the Hungarian consul general in Bratislava. Pavol Demes, Slovak minister for international relations, outlined to Jenoe Boros, Hungarian consul general in Bratislava, the previously stated opinion that statements of certain Hungarian government factions contain border-revision claims. The Hungarian consul general emphasized that the Hungarian Government, led by Jozsef Antall, recognizes and respects the Helsinki Final Act and the chapter of the Paris Charter concerning borders and rejects the change by force of external and internal borders.

Defense Conference: Bush Decision 'Correct Step'

LD2809111691 Budapest Kossuth Radio Network in Hungarian 1000 28 Sep 91

[Report by correspondent Janos Molnar at the Hungarian Defense Ministry's international conference in Budapest on 28 September]

[Text] The Soviet representative asked for Western Europe's help in convincing the leadership of the republics that are becoming independent that, for the Soviet Union to keep its earlier undertaken disarmament obligations, the Army must stay under central direction.

At the conference, participants considered President Bush's decision, announced overnight, of a reduction in U.S. nuclear forces, to be a correct step. The Soviet expert said that the gesture could open a new phase in the disarmament process, for instead of agreements created through lengthy negotiations, mutual trust can take over the leading role in the reduction of military force.

Central-Eastern Europe's security is not currently threatened by conflicts between countries, but by the region's ethnic groupings turning against each other, and the ever deteriorating economic and social situation, said one of the contributors, who like his companions, asked the press not to reveal his name. The speaker pointed out that Eastern European people were disappointed in the West, because their behavior during the Yugoslav crisis indicates that in the case of another similiar crisis erupting, they would only be able to make diplomatic endeavors that are not capable of putting an immediate end to the possible bloodshed.

Transylvanian Government-in-Exile Dissolved

LD2709225291 Budapest Kossuth Radio Network in Hungarian 1600 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Text] The 'Transylvanian Government-in-Exile' has dissolved itself. The Romanian-speaking leader of the group formed a few days ago in Budapest justified the decision by saying that they did not want to burden the relationship of the two countries. The so-called prime minister of the government-in-exile has sharply condemned the press that, in his view, has tried to serve up the Government of Transylvania to party interests. Since, however, Europe does not need an additional flare-up point the group is to transform itself into a cultural and human rights organization.

Janos Herman, spokesman for the Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, has told MTI that the Ministry learned about the existence of the so-called 'Transylvanian Government-in-exile' only from the press.

Yugoslav Charges of Airspace Violations Unfounded

LD2809213591 Budapest MTI in English 1859 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] Budapest, September 28 (MTI)—The charges against Hungary and the Hungarian Army, which appeared in the Saturday issue of the Belgrade daily 'POLITIKA', are totally unfounded, Colonel Gyorgy Keleti, spokesman for the Hungarian Ministry of Defence, told MTI's correspondent.

He stated that no Hungarian aircraft had violated Yugoslavia's airspace. In contrast, in the morning on Thursday, the day mentioned in the newspaper, a white helicopter coming from Yugoslavia penetrated into the airspace of the Republic of Hungary in the region of Zala County. Following, the Hungarian Foreign Ministry requested an explanation for the incident through diplomatic channels, but has, unfortunately, received no reply up until now.

The reports about the alleged formation of so-called sabotage, terrorist groups with the task of crossing into Yugoslavia are also groundless and impossible. Refugees wishing to return to their country are allowed to do so exclusively unarmed.

According to the spokesman, the allegations in the Belgrade newspaper are suitable to sow doubt in Yugoslav and international public opinion about Hungary's sincere and firm intention of promoting a peaceful settlement of the Yugoslav conflict, and are, therefore, categorically rejected by the Hungarian side.

Finance Minister Kupa Views 1992 State Budget

AU3009093191 Budapest MTI in English 1926 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Text] Budapest, September 27 (MTI-ECONEWS)—The Hungarian Ministry of Finance is to put the detailed 1992 state budget before parliament by October 31 at the latest.

Next week, MPs will get the main budget guidelines only, Finance Minister Mihaly Kupa told the press here today.

The government will discuss the tax reform on Thursday.

"We certainly want to keep the planned deficit of 60-80 billion forints under the upper limit," Mr. Kupa said.

"It's going to be a tight budget next year. The redistribution of the GDP by the budget will decrease by 3 percentage points compared to 1991," he told newsmen.

"The chief enemy will continue to be inflation next year," Mr. Kupa said, and confirmed that he considers an inflation rate of 20-22 percent realistic in 1992 as compared to 38 percent this year.

Giving his reasons, he said that no one-off inflationary factors such as the dollarization of east European trade or the removal of state subsidies will be felt next year, and the government will also refrain from steps that might fuel inflation.

This is why the government rejected the introduction of a two-bracket VAT system, for instance.

The finance minister said that a demand-led economic model is taking shape in Hungary, and this, combined with the government's strict monetary policy, was causing inflationary pressure to decrease.

The reason incomes from privatization will feature as budget income next year—an income of 20 billion forints is envisaged from privatization in 1992—is that the state debt is not decreasing in line with the pace of privatization, Mr. Kupa said.

This is partly because the state gets no income from privatizations which are combined with a capital increase, the minister said.

Also, state companies which owe the state vast sums simply disappear during the course of privatization, and all they leave behind is debts, Mr. Kupa said, quoting the electronics giant Videoton as an example.

Thirdly, privatization tends to eat up state incomes, because many new companies are granted tax privileges.

"A strange situation has emerged whereby, while the country's external debts are decreasing, its internal debts are not," the minister told the press.

Just because the government has dumped the idea of a two-bracket VAT system does not mean that the draft amendment to the Tax Act will have to undergo fundamental modification, he explained.

By putting off the switch-over to a dual-rate VAT system, the state will go the loser of about 20 billion forints in tax income next year.

Having said that, though, a new, two-bracket VAT system with all the necessary compensations would at best have worked out to a zero balance, Kupa said.

Denies Secret IMF Talks

AU3009095991 Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian 26 Sep 91 pp 1, 5

[Interview with Finance Minister Mihaly Kupa by Istvan Varga in Siofok on 25 September: "Finance Minister's Arguments With Ministries"]

[Text] On 25 September, economists held a regional meeting in the Ezustpart Hotel in Siofok [near lake Balaton]. Finance Minister Mihaly Kupa addressed the meeting, and our correspondent asked him for an interview:

[Varga] Minister Kupa, a few days ago, THE FINANCIAL TIMES published an article stating that you were conducting secret negotiations with the IMF to reschedule Hungary's debts. Is that true?

[Kupa] There are absolutely no secret negotiations.

[Varga] So Hungary is not asking for a rescheduling of its debts?

[Kupa] Never.

[Varga] In your opinion, what kind of a situation would necessitate a rescheduling of our debt?

[Kupa] There can be no such situation. Hungary is not in a situation where it needs to ask for a rescheduling. In fact, Hungary's situation is so good that this is out of the question.

[Varga] What is happening to the draft bill on Hungary's issuing bank at the moment?

[Kupa] As far as I know, there are several amendment proposals; I am not familiar with them because I have been abroad, but together with Gyorgy Suranyi, the chairman of the Hungarian National Bank, I will have a look at these amendments, because we were the ones who drafted the bill on Hungary's issuing bank. Thereafter (probably next week), I will present the bill to the government.

[Varga] Hungarian Democratic Forum [MDF] representatives have summarized their remarks on the bill in 40 points. What do you think of that?

[Kupa] Everyone can make remarks, including the MDF representatives, but I will suggest that we give the issuing bank considerable independence.

[Varga] What developments can we expect as far as next year's tax laws are concerned?

[Kupa] We are not expecting any dramatic changes, and there are two reasons for this. First of all, I do not think that in a transitional period, society should be upset about the introduction of a fundamental new tax system—that, incidentally, is not so bad. Secondly, if we introduced a two-step VAT system, we would have to

work out an adequate system of compensation. However, we have no decent social policy system, so I have nothing to lean on. That is why we will not introduce it—not just because of the inflationary effect it would have. Once the Welfare Ministry has worked out a social policy system, we can make changes. Until then, we will not know who is rich and who is poor.

[Varga] From the outside, it looks as though the Finance Ministry is always on the defensive at coordination talks between the ministries. Is that correct?

[Kupa] No. We have a fairly offensive approach, and if we take the example of the budget for 1991, we were able to agree in principle with all the ministries. We have problems with three ministries, and the government will have to decide on these moot points. In order of importance, there is first the question of education: I personally believe that education is very important and some additional resources will have to be found for it. Second, we have the Defense Ministry, and all I can say is that the government will have to decide how important it is. Third, we have the Welfare Ministry, which is asking for funds to finance a health reform. The problem is that the government has not approved of this reform. This issue is still in limbo. We do not have any bones of contention with any of the other ministries.

Deputies Approve Amendments to Budget Law

LD2709071491 Warsaw PAP in English 0310 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Text] Warsaw, Sept. 26—The Sejm (lower house of the Polish Parliament) voted on Thursday evening in favour of the amendments to the budget law for 1991 which authorise the Council of Ministers to make changes in budgetary income and spending and increase the budgetary deficit to 26 trillion zloties (2.3 billion dollars) by the end of this year.

Before voting on the amendments the Sejm considered the controversial bill on revalorization of old age and disability pensions which envisages a considerable lowering of the highest pensions while raising the lowest ones.

The bill, originally proposed by the government, has been radically modified by deputies who suggested higher valorization indexes which would increase outlays from the state budget by 6 trillion zloties (52 million dollars) by the end of this year and by 26 trillion (2.3 billion dollars) next year.

The government version of the bill was supported by deputies of the Democratic Union and the Labour Solidarity, while the parliamentary floor groups of the Democratic Left, the Labour, and the Catholic assiciation "Pax" opted for the deputies project.

The deputies opposing the government bill criticised mainly the fact that it deprives pensioners of their already acquired rights. "Against propaganda, not only the highest pensions, but also medium and some of the low ones would be drastically lowered," a Democratic Left deputy said while an independent MP stated: "We have no moral right to support the bill which will hit at the economically weakest groups."

Supporters of the government bill pointed out that proposals of the Sejm committees were unrealistic and their adoption might block any changes in the present pension system and revalorization of benefits.

Jacek Kuron of the Democratic Union described the deputy version as "a fairy tale which will bring about losses to the poorest" and proposed voting by call on the issue.

Labour Minister Michal Boni stated that the changes made in the government bill by deputies were to radical for the cabinet to consider the draft its own.

"The government is aware that the proposed solution," he said, "is temporary but it is necessary. If we plan reforms in the financing of the social security institution and other measures with a view to forming a new pension system, we have to take decisions together that will make our work easier later on," Boni stated.

Voting on the pension bill is expected on Friday.

Defense Budget Appears 'Horrifyingly Small'

LD2909123491 Warsaw TVP Television Network in Polish 1730 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Excerpts] Sole providers of families may be exempt from military service. The Sejm passed the law on the duty to defend the Republic, as well as other military laws. [passage omitted]

In keeping with the law, the government will be implementing decisions by the National Defense Committee, which consists of the president, the prime minister, and six ministers. The laws provide for depoliticizing the Army; they also envisage civilian service employees, which will make it possible for the civilians to work for the Army. The basic military service has been shortened to 18 months. There has been much controversy over making sole providers of families exempt from military service. [passage omitted]

The deputies also ruled that regular soldiers, like other citizens, have the right to be shareholders in companies. Each year, about 250,000 recruits are examined by the Recruitment Commissions. Less than half end up in the Armed Forces. Students receive most deferments. Most recruits come from cities. The Polish Armed Forces are short of officers, warrant officers, and junior officers, by about 20 percent. Young people have become more interested in military schools only recently. A dozen or so warrant officers will be trained in the elite U.S. military academies, West Point included.

This year's National Defense Ministry budget looks horrifyingly small. It was planned to amount to 29 billion zloties; the Sejm passed 23 billion zloties. After the recent cuts, there remains only 16 billion zloties. This money is reserved mainly for equipment, which is why the Ministry does not order anything in arms factories. Therefore, Stalowa Wola, Labedy, Mielec, and many other manufacturers are in serious trouble.

In the future, the Polish Armed Forces are to number about 240,000 soldiers, 1,730 tanks, 2,150 personnel carriers, 1,610 artillery units, 460 aircraft, and 130 helicopter gunships. Half of the Army will consist of regular soldiers. In a more distant future, it is envisaged that basic military service will be cut to 12 months. It is also envisaged that the Ministry will be transformed into a civilian body of state administration.

Operation, Problems of Zloty Revaluation Discussed

AU2709135391 Warsaw SZTANDAR MLODYCH in Polish 23 Sep 91 pp 1-2

['A. Kaz. Maj' report: "Goodbye Millionaires"]

[Text] Everyone knows that the zloty will be revalued, but no one has officially announced how many zeros are going to be crossed off today's banknotes, or indeed what the new money is going to look like or how the entire operation is going to be performed.

Such an operation has already been carried out in many countries. The best-known example is France, where for many years the new franc existed side-by-side with the old franc. The Italians are now preparing to do the same. The new lira is to be 1,000 higher than the present one. The old and the new lira will be in circulation together for 10 years. Prices will be given in old and new lira.

The Polish operation will probably be carried out according to the same principles, but the problem in Poland is that people do not trust the banks. People still remember the 1950 operation, when many of them lost most of their savings overnight.

The bankers promise that everything will be carried out officially, before a raised curtain. Former Polish National Bank president Grzegorz Wojtowicz said that the date of the introduction of the new zloty would be announced six months in advance.

National Bank vice president Wladyslaw Golebiewski says that the operation could start soon after the appointment of a new national Bank president [Wojtowicz was dismissed from his post and subsequently arrested for being involved in a financial scandal]. But some bankers claim that it will not start until the new Sejm has been formed.

Still a secret is exactly how many zeros will be crossed off—three or four. Bankers think that the new zloty will probably equal 10,000 present ones. That would simplify bank procedures, which are difficult to perform today because there is no room for any more zeros in computers and calculating machines. Another advantage of this relationship is that zloty coins will once again become the principle means of payment.

That view is confirmed by the Warsaw State Mint, which has been manufacturing new coins for one years already. Information on the shape and appearance of the new coins is very hard to obtain because there is no access to the production line without a special permit. Access is even denied to Mint employees in other departments. However, we do know that there will be a 1 zloty coin and 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, and 50 grosz coins. Coins of 10 grosz and upwards will be made of copper and nickel, lower denominations of copper. The coins will be similar to those that were in circulation at the beginning of the Polish People's Republic. The Mint has already produced most of the coins that have been ordered. It has only to complete the production of the 20 grosz coins.

On the other hand, we do not know whether or not the production of the new banknotes has started. It is certain that they will not be produced by the State Monetary Paper Plant. They are to be manufactured abroad.

Because all the new banknotes can be printed in just three months, the printing thereof has probably not started yet. The highest denomination banknote is supposed to equal the average monthly salary, i.e. 100 new zlotys.

It is not certain whether or not the persons depicted on the banknotes will depend on the Sejm election results, but it is reasonably certain that figures like Pilsudski and Witos will appear. The only question is: On what denomonations?

IMF Decision To Withhold Credit Reported

LD2909123791 Warsaw Radio Warszawa Network in Polish 1800 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] The IMF has withheld the transfer of the next tranche of credit of $104 million to Poland. In June and July, in accord with the conditions of the agreement, the Polish side, together with an IMF mission, carried out a review of the implementation of the program in the first half of 1991. It was ascertained that the agreed limits had been exceeded. This refers inter alia to the budget deficit and credit drawn in banks by the budget. In such a case, it is normal procedure to withhold the next tranches of credit and to hold discussions with the fund's experts to explain the reasons for not fulfilling the conditions. Poland expects that decision to be revoked after mutual agreements in the adjustment program for 1992.

Walesa Confers With Centrist Politicians

AU2709143891 Warsaw POLSKA ZBROJNA in Polish 24 Sep 91 pp 1-2

[Unattributed report: "What Kind Of Political Shape For The Country?"]

[Text] On Monday, President Lech Walesa received representatives of the Citizens' Center Accord at the Belvedere. They had requested this meeting. At the meeting, the future political shape of Poland, as called for by the coalition, was discussed. It wants, among other things, a strong presidency, Parliament, and government.

The meeting was attended by: Jaroslaw Kaczynski, Center Accord chairman; Jan Olszewski, deputy chairman of the National Citizens' Committee; Roman Bartoszcze, chairman of the "Patrimony" People's-Christian Forum; Przemyslaw Hniedziewicz, deputy chairman of the Center Accord and plenipotentiary for the Citizens' Center Accord; and Wojciech Wlodarczyk, secretary to the National Citizens' Committee.

"We are happy to have been able to tell the president our views, which aim toward a strong democracy and Parliament," Przemyslaw Hniedziewicz told the press. "As political forces with convergent views, we wish to enter Parliament together to prevent its eventual fragmentation," he added.

"Our political milieu is of the opinion that the future essential and radical reforms in Poland require a strong presidency, and that is what we told the president," said Wojciech Wlodarczyk. "We also discussed how our milieu might act in the new Parliament, and how the country's new authorities should act after the elections. Many of the topics touched upon were close to the hearts of the president and the remaining participants in the meeting."

Asked by journalists whether this meeting marked the start of a series of meetings between the president and

various election bodies, Government Spokesman Andrzej Drzycimski said: "The president talked to a group of people who have something in common with him and have the same political origins. That was the reason for the meeting. The president has recently held similar meetings on similar topics with Tadeusz Mazowiecki of the Democratic Union and Donald Tusk of the Liberal-Democratic Congress."

"We think," said P. Hniedziewicz, "that Poland must have a political setup that guarantees the continuation of political authority. This is essential on a domestic and international level, and will also guarantee a strong parliament, which in turn will be in a position to form a strong government."

"The President's meeting with the representatives of the Center Citizens' Accord should not be taken to mean that he has given this organization his blessing," said A. Drzycimski. "The president supports all the democratic processes occurring in Poland, and meets representatives of various political forces and setups."

Solidarity Chief Reports on Meeting With Bielecki

AU2709143291 Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish 24 Sep 91 p 1

['Ma.s' report: "Marian Krzaklewski Visits The Prime Minister"]

[Text] Prime Minister Jan Krzysztof Bielecki's meeting with Solidarity Chairman Marian Krzaklewski Monday lasted almost three hours. After the meeting, the Solidarity leader said that the prime minister had mentioned possible state intervention in areas with high unemployment and announced talks on how to restore to Solidarity the assets taken from it during martial law.

Marian Krzaklewski noted that Solidarity does not want to "break" the budget, but a professional trade union cannot function without funds. Membership dues alone are not enough. Giving back to Solidarity what was taken from it during martial law is the basic level of compensation called for by social justice, said Krzaklewski.

At a press briefing, Krzaklewski said there are two reasons for Solidarity's participation in the elections. The first is the formation of a Solidarity parliamentary club, which would present initiatives concerning the rights of workers. The second reason is the need for the union to continue to act for a little longer as guarantor of democratic reforms.

According to Krzaklewski, the union's merit is that it has "succeeded in setting itself apart from the political parties." Krzaklewski sees the union fulfilling the role of a "voice of caution" in the new Parliament.

Solidarity Leader Views Union's Tactics

AU2709122491 Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish 23 Sep 91 p 2

[Malgorzata Subotic report: "Solidarity Close To the Center Accord"]

[Text] Solidarity is losing the support of the electorate. The results of the latest opinion polls confirm this. In the course of six months, the union has fallen from its original position among the three most popular organizations. According to a September poll specially commissioned by RZECZPOSPOLITA, only 8 percent of the respondents said they would vote for Solidarity.

We spoke to Maciej Jankowski, leader of the Solidarity Mazowsze branch, about the union's situation on the eve of the elections:

[Jankowski] I would not exaggerate the significance of the pre-election opinion polls, though I agree the average person blames Solidarity for the present situation. The June 1989 elections took place under the Solidarity banner, and the two governments we have had since then lay emphasis on their Solidarity origins. To tell the truth, Solidarity withdrew from the political scene for almost 18 months to permit the emergence of new political parties. But it returned too late and failed to take decisive steps after the 22 May protest. Once again we resorted to piecemeal talks that provide no results. As a union we are paying other people's bills, without the possibility of joint decisionmaking. The Solidarity government teams have shunned us.

Now it is clear that Solidarity was too meek. All it did was stand on the sidelines watching the changes occur. I think this sideline position has ended.

We want to be inside the next Parliament to effectively defend the interests of workers. We very much regret not being a part of Parliament over the past two years. All we need is 15 percent of the seats.

Solidarity is not and does not wish to be an organization that does nothing but make demands. It is pointless to adhere to such an attitude when there is nothing to demand. Instead, our parliamentarians will aim to formulate an intelligent industrial policy, the kind of policy that will make it clear to enterprises what lies in store for them in the future. It is also necessary to make proper use of foreign aid. Social policy has a low chance of being implemented if the state coffers are empty.

Solidarity decided to incorporate its parliamentary candidates in a single election bloc together with those of other groups, especially the Center Accord. The reason for this is obvious. If we win more votes that our candidates need, we can transfer the excess to parties that are programatically linked to us.

We in the Mazowsze branch believe that the candidates on the Warsaw Center Accord list suit the interests of Solidarity unionists. We also want acceleration, the combating of corruption, and en end to the thick line policy [erasing the past with a thick line]. Under Tadeusz Mazowiecki's government, the Democratic Union did Solidarity a service as far as requisitioned Union assets are concerned. However, the idea that the Union should enter an alliance with the liberals should go down in the Guinness Book of World Records. The orientation of Solidarity is quite the opposite of that of the liberals.

Inside Parliament we would be most willing to collaborate with Solidarity of Labor and the Center Accord. A single-party government seems out of the question. There is nothing to indicate that any parliamentary party will attain a parliamentary majority.

We are in favor of a government of pragmatists. We do not want any theories to be tested on the next government, not even the best ones. We would feel the most comfortable with a government coalition consisting of Solidarity of Labor and the Center Accord, backed by people outside the political setups. But we do not know whether this marriage is possible."

Lithuanian, Polish Officials Discuss Minorities

LD3009091791 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanaian 1900 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] ELTA reports that yesterday the Lithuanian temporary charge d'affaires in the Republic of Poland, Dainius Junevicius, paid a courtesy visit to the state secretary for international affairs of the Polish President's Office, Mr. Janusz Ziolkowski. During the conversation, views were exchanged on the present relations between Lithuania and Poland. A united opinion was reached that to improve these relations, both sides must seek compromises.

The situation of national minorities in both states, which must be loyal to their governments in solving their problems, will be of great importance to the development of interstate relations. It was stressed during the meeting that international norms and concluding documents of the Helsinki meeting must be observed.

Junevicius acquainted Secretary Ziolkowski with the situation of Lithuanian Poles and Lithuanian laws guaranteeing the rights of the republic's national minorities, and presented to him the texts of [words indistinct]. The Polish state secretary said Polish Lithuanians must have the opportunity to enjoy the same rights as Lithuanian Poles. [Words indistinct] Lithuanians to use the Lithuanian language in offices, have their [words indistinct] Lithuanian TV and radio broadcasts. The Lithuanian TV and radio broadcasts should be retransmitted on the whole of Poland's territory. (?Lithuanian Poles) also must have the right to use Lithuanian forms in writing their surnames.

A letter by the public organizations of Polish Lithuanians on these issues was sent to the Polish president last March, but so far there has been no reply.

Ziolkowski expressed his wish that the Lithuanian temporary charge d'affaires in Poland would prepare a letter about the demands of Polish Lithuanians.

The conversation took place in a friendly atmosphere.

Meanwhile, the Polish State Election Commission has forbidden candidates of national minorities to appeal on radio to voters in their native language. Czechoslovak, Lithuanian, and Ukrainian representatives, taking part in this week's election broadcasts, in their native languages invited their compatriots to vote for the representatives of national minorities.

Economic, Trade Agreement Signed With Latvia

LD2809153791 Warsaw PAP in English 2316 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] Warsaw, Sept. 27—Poland and Latvia signed an intergovernmental agreement on trade and economic cooperation here on Friday.

The document, signed by Polish Minister for Foreign Economic Relations Dariusz Ledworowski and Latvian Deputy Premier Arnis Kalnins, opens the road towards direct economic and trade cooperation between individual companies.

Latvia's export offer includes minibuses, glass fibre, fire-fighting equipment, radio receivers, watches and furniture. In return, Latvia would like to buy from Poland medicaments, medical equipment, delivery vans, gas stoves, synthetic fibres, metallurgical products.

Presidency Communique Condemns Cornea TV Speech

AU2709181391 Bucharest Programul Unu Radio Network in Romanian 1708 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Communique from the Presidency's Press Bureau issued on 27 September; place not given—read by announcer]

[Text] This afternoon we noted a stupefying presence on the television screen, that of Mrs. Doina Cornea, one of the founding members of the Civic Alliance. During her statements on television, Mrs. Doina Cornea made a series of inciting affirmations, and she made them in such a way as to stir up even the little bit of calm that has remained.

For instance, Mrs. Cornea says that she participated with the Jiu Valley miners in the assault on Cotroceni Palace and that she has seen a large number of injured people who were transported to the hospital and that the violence was of great scope, and so on and so forth. In the end, she clearly attempted to instigate the Armed Forces against the president of the country, thus to commit a deliberate act to destabilize public order.

The journalists who were present at Cotroceni Palace can confirm that the negotiations between the president of our country, Mr. Ion Iliescu, and the delegation of miners took place quietly. In any event, an understanding was reached, and the reaction of soldiers who had the mission to defend Cotroceni Palace was very sensible, because they used only means of discouragement such as tear gas. They did not even use tear gas against the miners, but against those who, after the miners had left, tried to attack the gates and threw Molotov cocktails. The statement that there were dead and injured persons is incomprehensible.

Unfortunately, Mrs. Cornea has demonstrated again that she wants only one thing—that is, to help the destruction of the fragile democratic construction in our country, to instigate people to violence, and to spoil the face of our country. Whom do such acts help, acts that unfortunately are committed too easily in these very tense moments for our country?

Communique on Results of Iliescu, Miners Talks

AU2709190491 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1829 GMT 27 Sep 91

["Communique on the Results of the Talks between President Ion Iliescu and Representatives of the Jiu Valley Miners" issued on 27 September; place not given]

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 27/9/1991—The following were decided during the talks held Friday, 27 September, between Romania's President Ion Iliescu and a miners' delegation, headed by union leader Miron Cosma, concerning the claims of the mining unions of the Jiu Valley:

1. As regards the confirmation of Petre Roman's resignation and the formation of a coalition government, President Ion Iliescu repeated, for the delegation, that Prime Minister Petre Roman had forwarded his resignation and that it had been accepted. President Ion Iliescu had talks, Friday, 27 September, in the morning, with representatives of the parties in the Parliament. Suggestions and proposals are going to be made Friday, 27 September, in the afternoon, on the formation of the future government.

2. As regards the invitation the miners made to Romania's president to pay a visit in the Jiu Valley, on Monday, 30 September, President Iliescu accepted it. The parties established that a mine, to be chosen by the mining unions, will be visited. The representatives of the miners said they would ensure the security of the president and of his delegation, and of a group of journalists, during the visit.

3. As regards the claims of the Jiu Valley miners, that had been discussed and solved by the government, President Ion Iliescu assured the delegates he would personally support the implementation of these measures by the new government.

4. Romania's president agreed that the Ministry of the Interior make investigations to establish if there are miners who were arrested or who died. The inquiries will be made in the presence of three delegates of the miners. If there are casualties from among the miners, it was established that they would immediately be sent home.

5. The representatives of the mining unions asked that the former Prime Minister Petre Roman and his government bear the whole responsibility for the developments of 23-27 September, as they did not solve all the claims of the miners.

President Ion Iliescu specified that this issue does not fall to the presidency and that he would forward a proposal to the Parliament to create a special commission, made up of representatives of all the important parties represented in the Parliament, in order to establish the causes of the present situation and legal responsibilities.

6. Upon the miners' request, President Ion Iliescu agreed to give the miners food and to create conditions for their transport to the Jiu Valley; both have been ensured since Thursday, 26 September.

Following discussions and the accord above, the unions of the Jiu Valley miners assumed responsibility that all the miners who came to Bucharest immediately go back to the Jiu Valley.

The communique is signed by Ion Iliescu, Romania's president, and Miron Cosma, leader of the mining unions of the Jiu Valley.

Cosma Allegedly Drugged, Urges Miners To Stay

AU2709185091 Vienna ORF Television Network in German 1730 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Friedrich Orter report from Bucharest, introduced by announcer Ursula Stenzel]

[Text] In Bucharest today, the Army once again took action against the demonstrators. Miners' leader Miron Cosma, who was cited a few hours ago as saying that the conflict had come to an end, has now called on the miners not to leave Bucharest. All this suggests an obscure power struggle within Romania's political leadership. An indication of this has come from Brussels, where a spokesman for the European Community stated that the association negotiations with Romania have been suspended because there are no negotiators. Friedrich Orter reports from Bucharest:

[Orter] The situation in Bucharest is dramatic. Thousands of miners are in University Square in the center of the city. They are calling for their union leader, Miron Cosma, because wild rumors are circulating here. Cosma was allegedly drugged during the negotiations with Iliescu. Miners allegedly took hostage a general of the security service. Cosma has arrived but is unable to talk to the miners. President Iliescu is determined to restore law and order, even if the bloodshed continues. Several demonstrators were shot dead in front of the Presidential Palace this afternoon.

We are in a side street in front of the Presidential Palace. We cannot go closer because the president has ordered his Army to attack the people with tear gas. Numerous people have been injured.

[Orter is interrupted by a Romanian, who addresses him in German, saying that the people do not want to have communists in their country; however, the government is 100 percent communist.]

Violence instead of democracy—Romania one and a half years after the first, relatively free elections—another powder keg in the Balkans.

Parliament Meets; Disagreement on Agenda Reported

AU2709190591 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1740 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 27/9/1991—As was decided yesterday, the Senate met in plenum, but the agenda submitted by the Standing Bureau was not agreed upon as two camps emerged: One asked that discussions be resumed on the Romanian Intelligence Service bill which was assessed as particularly important in the current tense atmosphere in the country. But the greater part of the senators asked that an analysis start immediately of the dramatic events of the past two days that had led to the fall of the government and of its causes, and of the crisis the country is in. The plenary session was adjourned about noon, but the senators agreed to stay on the premises so as to be ready to make a decision should the fast-moving events so require.

The Assembly of Deputies also met in plenum to discuss the alternatives to the agenda put forth by Deputy Speaker Ionel Roman: Either to continue discussions in plenum on the local administration bill or to split into parliamentary groups so that each group may analyse underway events. Liberal Party member Radu Horia said that Parliament should not be blocked at a time when the Armed Forces are known to have been issued live ammunition and suggested that a flexible solution be found through talks to defuse tension. Taking the floor, Socialist Democratic Party member Silviu (?Somcu) said that the attempts to change by force the system built after the December 1989 revolution should meet with a firm response.

No decision on the agenda has been made yet.

Police Press Department Reports Injuries

AU2709192491 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1837 GMT 27 Sep 91

["Communique from the Police Press Department" issued on 27 September]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 27/9/1991—Following the events in the capital city on September 25 and 26, 183 persons belonging to the Ministry of the Interior staff were wounded (156 gendarmes, 27 policemen) 72 of whom were put into hospitals.

In the night of September 26/27, 24 persons were wounded (7 taken to hospitals) of whom 13 civilians (one coal miner) and 11 military belonging to the intervention forces. The person who died on September 26 had been severely wounded and taken to hospital the previous day.

To protect democratic institutions and to ensure the protection of citizens, of public and private wealth, the order-keeping forces of the Ministry of the Interior are acting in close collaboration with the forces of the Ministry of National Defence.

Appeal is made to the people accidentally passing through the areas of clashes to leave that area immediately in order that they be not subject to accidents, the communique reads.

Petrila Union Leader Issues Statement

AU2709193291 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1840 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 27/9/1991—"In connection with the vandalism acts in the city in the last two days, from an organizing point of view, the trade unions cannot assume the responsibility," stated the spokesman of the Trade Union League, Petre Brait, trade union leader at Petrila Mine.

There are many proofs that the coal miners have tried to protect the window shops, the objectives which might have been of interest for potential devastators, he said.

The coal miners' spokesman considers that the trade union leaders lost their control over the coal miners now in Bucharest. In his opinion, separate groups of miners will remain in the capital city for a time. Mr. Brait reminds that the coal miners are of the opinion that President Ion Iliescu should complete his mandate.

Asked by journalists if the mining trade unions were manipulated by any political formations, Mr. Brait stated: "Not by political parties, but only by some forces." Asked to detail over those forces, the trade union leader said: "We do not know if we have not been used, this time, for a programme to stop the reform," specifying that the coal miners declare for the continuation of the reform process.

'Fratia' Elects New Leadership, Rejects Violence

AU2709195591 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1843 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 27/9/1991—Miron Mitrea, president of "Fratia" union confederation and Mircea Popa, head of department, told a news conference held Friday, September 27, after the close of the congress of the confederation, that new leaders were democratically elected, but the strategy of union fighting was not modified. The main aim of the confederation refers to the collective terms of employment. The process will continue of the confederation's structuring, by strengthening its constituent federations and its 30 local branches. The union's law will be promoted, the confederation will firmly militate for the national unity of Romania's trade unions.

As concerns the latest developments in Bucharest, the union leaders underscored that "Fratia" morally supported the miners' strike, but it clearly rejected their way of acting, the violence of turbulent groups. The leaders of "Fratia" confederation consider that the government is guilty of the miners' coming to Bucharest, of everything that has happened.

Roman on Defense, Interior Ministries Cooperation

AU2709195691 Bucharest Programul Unu Radio Network in Romanian 1900 GMT 27 Sep 91

["Communique on Behalf of Prime Minister Petre Roman" issued on 27 September; place not given]

[Text] In all actions to defend state and public institutions, the units of the Ministry of National Defense and of the Ministry of Interior have cooperated perfectly. They contributed equally to the failure of attempts to enter these institutions and to destroy them.

Iliescu: Election Preparation Will Take Months

AU2709204591 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1951 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 27/9/1991—In a statement made to the press, referring to the possibility of early elections, President Ion Iliescu drew the attention that the elections needed a several-month-long period of preparations—in keeping with both the old electoral law and the future one to be elaborated after the constitution were approved.

Commenting upon the possibility that an opposition personality be put in charge with the formation of the new cabinet, the president said: "Such a thing would be unconstitutional, not being in keeping with the law. I'd rather think of a premier to have everybody's approval but not belonging to any party or formation and who would be also approved by all the parties in the coalition."

Political Situation, Army Power Struggle Viewed

AU2709213591 Vienna ORF Television Network in German 2000 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Interview with Friedrich Orter, Bucharest correspondent of the Austrian Broadcasting Service, by moderator Robert Hochner in Vienna—live]

[Text] [Hochner] Mr. Orter, does the courage with which the people are freely voicing their outrage and contempt at President Ion Iliescu before Western television cameras mean that it is more than just a protest of the miners against inflationary food prices?

[Orter] Well, it undoubtedly is the people's extreme disappointment with developments in the country one and a half years after the first relatively free elections in Romania. The planned economy is working, even though without a plan. On the other hand, there are the modest beginnings of a private economy, which is, however, marked by the fact that clever profiteers are working with exorbitant prices. The people are extremely shocked at this development, and their aggression and disappointment is increasing.

The situation can be described as relatively ghostly at the moment. While the few thousand miners who are still in University Square are determined to continue to fight, on some streets further down, not a soul can be seen. There are indications, and experiences in recent months, specifically in June, have shown what is in the offing. It is expected that a special task force of the Interior Ministry will appear in the next few hours to try to clear the square by force. It is hard to tell how the miners will react. There were many militant tones this afternoon, and the people also called for arms.

[Hochner] Are there only the miners, or are they being supported by the people and the workers?

[Orter] Of course, the workers also sympathize with the miners. The development also must be viewed in connection with the parliamentary elections in Romania next spring. Meanwhile, the opposition, which has played a minor role in Parliament, has said that a new provisional government should be formed to prepare these elections in order to prevent bloodshed.

According to an interesting opinion poll, Mr. Iliescu's National Salvation Front will not win these elections. The party getting the most votes will be the nationalist movement, Vatra Romaneasca, which is a group and reservoir of extremists and former secret servicemen.

[Hochner] What role is President Iliescu playing? Some people have said that he called in the miners who are loyal to him to get rid of Petre Roman and the other reformers. This plan seems to have failed.

[Orter] Well, there is the famous quote of the miners who said last summer—we work but do not think. I believe that, in the meantime, they also have begun to think, and consequently, developments have assumed a dynamism of their own. Iliescu does not have the situation sufficiently under control to steer it. What is particularly interesting here in Bucharest is the fact that the people are no longer afraid as they were last year, but they support the miners.

[Hochner] My last question, Mr. Orter. Do you believe that like in similar revolutions in Eastern Europe, the security forces are considering whether they should take action against the people by the order of a regime that may cease to exist in the very near future, or can President Iliescu fully rely on his police force?

[Orter] I believe that a power struggle is going on within the police and the Army. This afternoon, some troops were seen firing at the demonstrators, whereas others were not. However, I cannot judge at this point which wing will succeed.

[Hochner] Mr. Orter, I thank you very much indeed.

Riot Police Move To Disperse Miners

AU2809064991 Paris AFP in English 0340 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] Bucharest, Sept 28 (AFP)—Romanian riot police wielding clubs early Saturday charged striking miners and other protestors and drove them from a central square in downtown Bucharest.

Some 2,000 protestors including several hundred miners had continued to occupy University Square Saturday despite calls for them to disband after riots which brought down the Romanian government on Thursday.

The demonstrators fought the police charge Saturday with petrol bombs, but police, tossing firecrackers, swept through makeshift barricades and chased the protestors from the square.

Some protestors took refuge in the Intercontinental Hotel near University Square.

During the night the demonstrators occupied the square and talked among themselves, sporadically shouting slogans against communism and President Ion Iliescu.

The bulk of the 6,000 miners who poured into Bucharest on Wednesday to head violent anti-government protests had returned home late Friday, but several hundred remained behind.

In two days of violent protests caused by economic demands, the miners obtained the resignation of premier Petre Roman and his entire government. Four people have died and 200 been injured.

Traian Basescu, who served as transport minister in the now-dissolved government, said he had monitored the miners' departures at Bucharest's Baneasa railway station during Friday.

Basescu told AFP that the miners' leader, Miron Cosma, had assured him he would attempt to persuade the hold-outs to return home to the Jiu Valley coalfields with their comrades.

However he also accused Cosma of deceit, saying the miner's leader had at one point called the men back, after rumours that some of their number had been killed in the protests.

Earlier Friday, Cosma announced that his men were returning home, after President Ion Illiescu received a miners' delegation and promised that he would visit their home region in the Jiu valley, north of here.

But early Saturday miners, backed by other anti-government protestors, were still gathered at University Square in the center of the city.

One of their leaders told AFP they did not intend to leave and the conflict was not over. He said they had been fired on by security forces and he demanded that Interior Minister Doru Viorel Ursu come meet them to explain.

Basescu described the miners' behaviour as "terroristic," and said that when they had come to the capital on Wednesday they had commandeered transport, threatening train drivers at knife-point.

He said that in some cases, drivers had been forced to take their trains through red light signals on the track, which meant that other trains could be coming in the opposite direction.

Meanwhile Doina Cornea, a leading Romanian dissident under the former communist dictatorship of Nicolae Ceausescu, called late Friday for a general strike to bring down Iliescu.

"After the resignation of the government, there remains no other solution but to chase President Iliescu" out of office, she said in a brief television address.

She said the Romanian people had "had enough after a year and nine months of lies, slander and abuse of power" and praised the miners as appearing "honest and firm" in their actions.

The management of the state-run television immediately denounced Cornea's message, saying in a communique that she had obtained air time to read out an appeal for "national concord."

Negotiations began Friday to choose members for a new cabinet and were attended by the leaders of most of the parties in Parliament.

Opposition National Liberal Party leader Radu Campeanu dismissed the idea that the protests were a "communist putsch" as he entered the talks. Roman told French television Thursday that the protests were an attempted "coup d'etat, a communist putsch from below."

Cornliu Coposu, leader of the Agrarian-Christian Democratic Party, called for the formation of a "neutral government of technicians who will insure free elections for the formation of a real Parliament."

Iliescu's National Salvation Front won heavy majorities in both houses of Parliament in elections held in May 1990, but his government has been rocked by continuing political unrest.

Fresh legislative and presidential elections are scheduled for next year after adoption of a new constitution.

Rally of Solidarity With Miners Held in Timisoara

AU2809091791 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0012 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 28/9/1991—A rally was held, Friday, 27 September, of solidarity with the miners, organised by "Timisoara" Union Federation and the Alliance of the Unions in the County of Timis. The rally started at 15:30 hours, half an hour after the time announced, as at 15:00 only 200-300 people had gathered in Timisoara's Opera Square, where the rally was to be held. As the order-keeping forces reported, about 2,000 people took part in the rally. The speakers supported the miners' claims. Some of them also disavowed the violence of the latest developments in Bucharest. A document was read, asking the resignation of President Ion Iliescu, the dissolution of Parliament and premature elections.

Defense Ministry: Army 'Fulfilling Duties'

AU2809075891 Bucharest Programul Unu Radio Network in Romanian 0400 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] A communique of the Ministry of National Defense calls on all citizens to refrain from becoming involved in violent actions and from participating in acts that may jeopardize national unity and law and order. Aware of the inherent dangers of disorder and destabilization of our political, economic, and social life for our national security, the Army—while observing its political neutrality and not becoming involved in the struggle for power—is, however, responsibly fulfilling its duties and asserts itself as a main factor of stability and a guarantor of the process of democratic changes in Romania.

The communique contains assurances to the extent that the Army is determined to act, along with the troops of the Ministry of Interior, to annihilate any aggressive acts in the capital and the country and to ensure the sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity of the fatherland.

Miners in Maramures Announce Sep 27 Strike

AU2809090291 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0824 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 28/9/1991—Starting Friday, September 27, the miners in Maramures are on strike, reads a communique sent to ROMPRES by Mr. Vasile Marchis, chairman of the League of Mining Trade Unions in Maramures. Following the refusal of the government to solve the miners' claims the Federation of the Mining Trade Unions of Romania called on all trade unions to go on strike in keeping with the decision of the coordinating council, the communique reads.

Miners' Leader Cosma Leaves Bucharest by Train

AU2809102791 Bucharest Programul Unu Radio Network in Romanian 1020 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] This morning, around 0900, the last trainload of miners, consisting of 16 cars, left Baneasa railway station, with Jiu Valley as its destination. Trade Union Leader Miron Cosma was also abroad that train.

Reportage on Party Leaders' Meetings With Iliescu

MER Leaders Received

AU2809161491 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1448 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 28/9/1991—On Saturday Romania's President Ion Iliescu received the representatives of the Ecological Movement of Romania (MER) at the Cotroceni Palace.

At the end of the meeting Senator Marcian Bleahu stated that the Ecological Movement of Romania counted on a government made up of technocrats the members of which be designated by the political parties. Mr. Bleahu specified that MER would not reject the candidature to the office of premier of a personality in the Armed Forces. Another representative of that movement, Mr. Antonica Dijmarescu, said that MER would agree and would back the candidature of Senator Antonie Iorgovan, the only independent personality in Parliament.

PDAR Views Reported

AU2809161691 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1450 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 28/9/1991—Saturday morning Romania's President Ion Iliescu started consultations at the Cotroceni Palace with representatives of the political parties for the formation of the new government.

The consultations started with the call by Victor Surdu, president of the Agrarian Democratic Party of Romania (PDAR), by other executives of that party. At the end of the interview, Mr. Surdu stated that PDAR opted for a government made up of technocrats but which should be formed as soon as possible after a broad consultation of parliamentarians who are still in contact with the electorate. PDAR requests the agriculture portfolio in the new governmental formula and declares for an independent personality for the office of premier.

PNL's Campeanu Interviewed

AU2809180691 Bucharest Programul Unu Radio Network in Romanian 1530 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Statement by National Liberal Party President Radu Campeanu in Bucharest on 28 Septeniber—live]

[Text] [Announcer] Radu Campeanu, president of the National Liberal Party, is in our studio. He has expressed the desire to make a statement on Romanian radio. Here you are:

[Campeanu] I want to express my thanks that you have offered me this possibility to express my opinion, mine and that of the National Liberal Party, as I expressed it to President Iliescu when I met him yesterday at 1600 in connection, of course, with the current situation and with the formation of a new Romanian government.

The proposal we have made is to set up a government of national unity that should be headed by an independent prime minister, a neutral prime minister. In connection with the position itself, we made proposals in regard to three individuals: a prelate, a general of the Romanian Army, and a university professor.

Obviously, as I will stress immediately, the existence of a neutral prime minister is a fundamental conditions for our participation in a possible government. There is nothing new in what I say, because on 13 December 1990, we proposed such a government headed by a neutral figure and, at that time, those in power, as well as some of the general public, did not properly understand the meaning, the significance of this proposal. We are convinced that had this proposal been accepted then, we would have avoided very many of the mistakes and negative aspects of governance afterward, and we would certainly have avoided the latest events in Bucharest because of the miners' arrival, which lasted almost one week.

Now, what is meant by a government of national unity? We understand it as a government made up of political figures coming from representative parties. Representative in what way? First, representative through their organizations in all counties, namely the presence of its organizations throughout the country; second, through their present activity and through their historic influence in national policy; and third, through their current political significance at home and abroad.

We must not forget that we will need this, particularly now, to improve Romania's political and commercial credibility abroad. In our view, such a government is a government that is able to make important and difficult decisions—as the decisions that have to be made at this point. These decisions have to aim at curbing and stopping Romania's slide toward economic, social, and political chaos. Finally, it has to be a government truly able to organize correct and honest elections.

What are our conditions for participation in such a government? Everything I am going to say now I have also told the president of the republic. Aside from an independent prime minister, the second condition is the possibility for us to have effective decisionmaking power in this government. Thus, we reject the experience [words indistinct].

The second condition is that the government should not incorporate any compromised people.

If these three conditions are accepted, then our cooperation is possible.

At the same time, I told the president that we do not agree with formation of a government of technocrats. Why do we hold such an opinion? A government of technocrats would be a government without any personality and unable to make the major decisions that are required by the current situation in Romania. Second, technocrats could not do anything except administer a crisis. The crisis exists, and that is not what should be done now. We have to try to alter the negative road that Romania's economy has taken.

Finally, and this is not the least important argument against such a government, I want to say that a government formed in such a way could seem, and it actually could be, a personal government of the president. In my view, such a thing should not happen. I believe that the public would reject such a government.

Obviously, these points of view were presented to the president of the republic. The president is the one, after he has consulted with other people from the leaderships of various political parties, to draw the necessary conclusions.

I would like to believe that the conclusions he draws will benefit the entire country and not only a small part of it.

Parliamentary Group Presents Views

AU2809204691 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1606 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 28/9/1991—On Saturday, at the Cotroceni Palace, President Ion Iliescu continued his consultations for the formation of the new government by receiving the representatives of the Liberal-oriented parliamentary group made up of the leaders of the parties in that group, namely Mr. Dinu Patriciu (National Liberal Party-Young Wing), Mr. Nicolae Echimescu (National Reconstruction Party), Mr. Rene Radu Policrat (independent) and the representative of the Romanian Free Democratic Youth Party.

The group's point of view—presented by Mr. Dinu Patriciu—is that the future government be made up of politicians representing all democratic—parliamentary and extraparliamentary—parties. In his turn, Mr. Nicolae Echimescu told the press that the group proposed the candidature of Mr. Rene Radu Policrat to the office of premier and specified that the president's reaction to that proposal was not of rejection.

PUNR's Ceontea Views Talks

AU2809204791 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1619 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 28/9/1991—On Saturday Romania's President Ion Iliescu had consultations for the formation of the new government with Mr. Radu Ceontea, president of the Romanian National Unity Party (PUNR).

At the end of the talk, Mr. Ceontea stated that PUNR was for a government of national unity made up of the parties represented in Parliament, but it did not exclude the participation of independent personalities provided they were patriots and good managers.

PUNR also agrees that former government members maintain their offices provided they proved capable. That party even backs the candidature to the office of prime minister of a member of the former government.

Cartel Supports Unity Government

AU2809204891 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1621 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 28/9/1991—On Saturday Romania's President Ion Iliescu received the representatives of the cartel made up of the Republican and Social Liberal Parties as well as the Party for the Romanian State's Unity.

At the end of the interview Mr. Ion Manzatu, president of the Republican Party, stated—on behalf of the cartel—that it opined for a government of national unity which should include all opposition political formations, extraparliamentary opposition included.

At the same time, retired Admiral Hirjeu, personality of that cartel, declared for such a governmental formula capable of leading a new process of reform and the programme of which should be elaborated only by Romanian intellectuals, excluding therefore any variants proposed by foreign experts. At the same time, the representatives of the cartel reasserted their attachment to the elected institutions of Parliament and presidency the stability of which represented the guarantee of a state of law.

PSDT Leaders Suggest Solution

AU2809205091 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1800 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 28/9/1991—On Saturday President Ion Iliescu received at the Cotroceni Palace the representatives of the Traditional Social Democratic Party [PSDT], Messrs. Lucian Cornescu, president, and Serghei Mesaros, vice president, for consultations concerning the formation of the new government.

The president of that party stated he presented the president a complex governing programme which stipulated immediate solutions for the present crisis situation.

Iliescu Visit to Jiu Valley Reported Postponed

AU2809161191 Bucharest Programul Unu Radio Network in Romanian 1554 GMT 28 Sep 91

["Communique from Romania's Presidency"]

[Text] In view of the need to continue consultations with the political parties represented in Parliament to appoint the future prime minister and form a broad-based government, Romanian President Ion Iliescu will postpone his visit to Jiu Valley, which was agreed upon with the miners' delegation from that coal basin, to a date that will be announced later.

Jiu Miners Not 'Prepared'

AU2809155191 Paris AFP in English 1534 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] Bucharest, Sept 28 (AFP) - Romanian President Ion Iliescu has cancelled his planned visit on Monday to the Jiu Valley to see disgruntled coal miners, who staged a three-day ramage on the capital this week, his office said Saturday.

"The miners' leaders informed us that they were not yet prepared for this visit, and that the situation was not yet totally under control in the Jiu Valley," which lies 300 kilometers (187 miles) northwest of Bucharest, a presidential spokesman said.

He also said that "certain questions concerning the miners' claims are not yet resolved."

The official spokesman said a Romanian parliamentary delegation would go to the Jiu Valley shortly, though he gave no dates.

Some 6,000 miners demanding better living standards descended on the capital Wednesday in a protest that sparked violent clashes and brought down the government of Petre Roman. Five people were killed and more than 300 injured in the rioting.

The last hold-outs left for home Saturday morning, after miners' union leader Miron Cosma met Friday with President Ion Iliescu.

Iliescu and Cosma had signed an agreement in the presidential palace stating that Iliescu had "accepted an invitation" from the miners to travel to Jiu Valley on September 30 "to visit a mine chosen by mines' unions."

Cosma, who also left the capital Satuday morning, had said he personally would gaurantee the president's security.

Iliescu Stresses Competence, Consensus to Press

AU2809173491 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1656 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 28/9/1991—On Saturday, September 28 Romania's President Ion Iliescu gave at the Cotroceni Palace an interview with the TF-1, ZDF (the second German national television programme), the Mexican television station as well as with the BBC correspondent to Bucharest.

Asked if he was not afraid that the scenario whose character had been Ceausescu in 1977 might repeat during his forthcoming visit to the Jiu Valley, the president underscored that "in my capacity of politician I have to assume risks, too." [sentence as received]

The president drew the attention to the fact that nostalgic stands which considered the return to the past as the way to a social-economic equilibrium were erroneous.

Asked why he did not hold consultations with those forces representing the real opposition, such as the Convention for Democracy, the president showed: "Simplist slogans chanted these days should not be mistaken for the real processes in our society and the only criterion which should be taken into consideration when selecting the managing staff is their competence."

After concluding his negotiations with all political forces concerning the formation of the new government, a synthesis could be made and a consensus might be reached, President Ion Iliescu stated.

Jiu Company Manager Explains Miners' Situation

AU2809204091 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1800 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 28/9/1991—In a statement made to a ROMPRES editor, Radu Mironovici, general manager of the Lignite Public Corporation Tg. Jiu, said:

"We, the miners in the lignite extracting industry, also have many problems because of the economic stoppage, the lack of investment funds and of currency to ensure the material basis from abroad, and other aspects which we have discussed with Romania's president.

"But we are so heavy-hearted in these moments of instability, of assault to democracy which might lead us to chaos, to the "law of club" and of street. The greatest part of our collectivities did not adhere to the idea of a general strike in the mining industry.

"Since Monday, September 23 until today, Saturday, September 28 at 1100 hrs, we have extracted 416,000 tonnes of coal and delivered 322,000 tonnes to our beneficiaries.

"Excepting certain sectors in the Cimpulung coal field, all the other units in the Rovinari, Jilt Motru, Mehedinti, Berbesti-Alunu coal fields are working."

He said he had a telephone conversation with the leader of the Mining Trade Unions Federation who specified that the answers received on behalf of the power were not satisfactory, that a general strike was called, and that those at the Lignite Public Corporation Tg. Jiu were to continue the extraction of coal but not to deliver it.

"I consider the coal miners' claims as righteous. I back them," he stated.

Miners' Union Federation Rejects Miners Actions

AU2909160691 Bucharest Programul Unu Radio Network in Romanian 0500 GMT 29 Sep 91

[Text] In a press communique, the Executive Bureau of the Federation of Miners' Trade Union of Romania declares that it has nothing in common with the actions of the Jiu Valley miners because the League of the Jiu Valley Miners Trade Union is not part of the Federation of Miners' Trade Union of Romania.

The communique, which is signed by Federation President Eugen Tamas, emphasizes that the federation maintains its position on the nine points included in the note of claims submitted to the president and Parliament.

Roman Chairs FSN Steering Collegium Session

AU2909183691 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1641 GMT 29 Sep 91

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 29/9/1991—The National Salvation Front [FSN] Steering Collegium held a special session on September 28. It was also attended by members of the two parliamentary groups and was chaired by national leader Petre Roman. In consideration of the events in the last few days, a survey was made of the particularly serious situation created both on an internal plane and on the plane of Romania's international relations. The participants firmly condemned the violent actions committed in the capital city and in other towns of the country, the inadmissible attacks on the state's democratic institution. Both the Steering Collegium and the parliamentary groups were informed that, over this dramatic period the Executive Bureau was on the side of the Front's national leader

supporting him in his attempt to politically solve, through dialogue, the crisis that came up.

Discussing the ways of settling the current political crisis from the FSN angle, the participants in the meeting underscored the need for the party's organizational as well as ideological restructuring to make it apt to provide for better rapprochement between its members and sympathizers, for broader support and a basis for selection, according to criteria of competence, of the proposals for the future government.

Stress was laid on the clear, unequivocal separation of the FSN from the communist ideology, and the attempts were condemned of obscure forces belonging to the past structures to revert, to the forefront.

The Steering Collegium also discussed the party's proposals for the FSN nominees for the office of prime minister and members of the new government. In reference to the proposal advanced by most of the participants for Mr. Petre Roman's investiture with the post of prime minister, he set forth his stance showing that he would no longer be a member of the new government.

To consolidate the state of law the participants decided to back the proposal that, in the ensuing period, the Parliament should hold its work mainly as a constituent assembly so that the new constitution could be endorsed as soon as possible.

Interior Minister: Forces Fulfilled Their Duty

AU2909193091 Bucharest Programul Unu Radio Network in Romanian 1825 GMT 29 Sep 91

[Statement by Interior Minister Doru Viorel Ursu in the radio studio—live]

[Text] [Unidentified reporter] Doru Viorel Ursu is in our radio studios. Mr. Minister, please proceed:

[Ursu] I would like to address the people, even before I answer questions in the Parliament.

I believe that, despite the anathema of treason or the premeditated attack against the Parliament, we will succeed in making the necessary clarifications—all the necessary clarifications—in connection with what happened, thus proving that the Ministry of the Interior, in accordance with the law, has fulfilled with discernment, devotion, and a spirit of sacrifice its mission, which is to defend state institutions and democratic values.

I thank all the sorely tried troops of all units of the Ministry of the Interior for the way in which they have fulfilled their duty and resisted forces that were superior to them in number and which were of an unprecedented aggressiveness. We were in continuous contact with the Ministry of National Defense, and we received the support of its units. The two ministries cooperated in the defense of the democratic state of law.

Likewise, I was in continuous contact with the president and prime minister, informing them systematically about the evolution of the situation, the actions initiated, and the results of those actions.

We are determined to continue to fulfill our mission in accordance with the law to ensure civic security and defend the democratic bodies, the public and private property, and the fundamental rights and freedoms of Romania's citizens. Thank you very much.

[Unidentified reporter] We also thank the interior minister, Doru Viorel Ursu.

Roman Asks For New Elections; Denies Resignation

AU2909210691 Paris AFP in English 2018 GMT 29 Sep 91

[Text] Paris, Sept 29 (AFP) - Petre Roman called on Sunday for new elections in Romania, saying the new government President Ion Iliescu is trying to put together should only serve as a "transitional government."

Roman was forced to resign as 6,000 angry Jiu Valley miners descended on Bucharest last week demanding his resignation despite his willingness to meet their pay rise demands.

Interviewed on France's TF1 television station, Roman accused Iliescu of not safeguarding the dignity of (Romanian) institutions in agreeing to sign an accord with rebellious miners.

Calm has returned to the streets of Bucharest, as the last of the protesting miners left the capital Saturday night.

Government headquarters, with all its windows smashed during an attack by the miners Wednesday, was returning to normal, although hundreds of police and soldiers continued to surround the building and armoured vehicles remained in place.

Roman denied that Iliescu was somehow linked to the miners assault on the capital, but said he "regretted" that the president had "signed a document with outlaws."

"I think he should have gone all the way in protecting the dignity of (Romanian) institutions," he said.

Roman emphasized that he had only "laid down his mandate" as prime minister," but had "not resigned," since his government and he himself had continued to function throughout the crisis.

The next government of "national opening" should be a "transition government, for a very short time," he said, adding "What we really need is elections."

Roman did not rule out returning to power following new elections. "The country will decide," he said. But he said he would "absolutely not" be the prime minister of the new government being formed by Iliescu.

Jiu Valley Miners Begin Normal Working Week

AU3009080791 Bucharest Programul Unu Radio Network in Romanian 0500 GMT 30 Sep 91

[Text] Our correspondent reports that the beginning of the week in the mining units in the Jiu Valley was marked by the miners' arrival at the mine and their preparations for entering underground tunnels.

The first shift started work at 0600 hours at the Vulcan mine, which, as a matter of fact, was the epicenter of the labor conflict. Activity has returned to normal and the job of entering underground tunnels is being done just like on any other working day.

Press Reaction to Latest Events Reported

AU2809122891 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1108 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 28/9/1991—"Back and on again..." is the headline of a note in the Saturday issue of the national and independent daily "ADEVARUL" which reads inter alia that the government building looks on the outside "exactly how the Romanian people feels inside, that is broken, burnt, guarded by armoured cars and riot police." There are many who are on the miners' side because "they are against those who allowed them, not for the first time, to come to Bucharest as their right hand" and it is "clear that since the fourth time the hooligans were not punished, not fined, not even with a flower, for their wild acts, they will try the fifth and the tenth time to accomplish what they started and have not finished." But, "the miners are not blacker than the devil. They want just one thing: To turn back and start all over again without knowing that back means the end of the end."

As a matter of fact the front page of "ADEVARUL" is dominated by the headline "Today Romania Could Have Been a Kingdom" explained in Sergiu Andon's article "Damn You, Your Majesty" which discloses ex-King Michael's intention to return to Romania planning a landing in Tirgu Mures with a charter plane during the events in Bucharest.

"TINERETUL LIBER" writes in its Saturday editorial "Let Us Gather the Debris" that "after three days of painful convulsions which resulted in great damage, economic disturbances, casualties, emotions and uncertainties, the last mineriad ended with a less spectacular, almost sad withdrawal. The balance sheet? A carpet of broken glass, a broken government, a president with an even more harmed political future, a democracy with a crystal-like sound that was almost to break into pieces".

"The important thing is that their last appearance looked like a blot of oil on the water that could cause a not quite ecologic catastrophe." "Let us once again gather the broken glass after these events. The miners got the resignation of the government and settled their claims. It is a Pyrrhus-like victory. The president was staunch and subtly annihilated them." "The parties represented in parliament are cautious. Some of the leaders are still faithful to the conventions they had signed with other groups. Others are shunning the core of the crisis hoping to join the government."

In a commentary headlined "Who Is Going To Pay?" "CURIERUL NATIONAL" writes among other things that "those who made mistakes are now paying for them. Unfortunately, a lot of innocent people have to pay the same price. Maybe it is too early to anticipate the "cost" the nation is going to pay. What we know is that it will not be small."

In its turn "ROMANIA LIBERA" wonders in its editorial that "Roman's Government Has Fallen, Neocommunism Has Been Saved. For how long?"

In the article "Balance and Self-Restraint" "DIMINEATA" daily writes that "for the politicians the imperative of the moment must be balance and self-restraint invested in safeguarding democracy, the road opened by the December 1989 revolution. One could see where exacerbation of political emotions can lead."

"AZI", the press organ of the National Salvation Front, the majority party in the country's Parliament, stresses that "it is strange to see that in Moscow putsches fail no matter how great the resistance to reforms of 70-year old structures and of a large part of the population is, while in Bucharest the wage protest of those who have already had their share turns into a putsch. I cannot say that there are forces able to think of a putsch among the miners, but it is obvious that such like forces outside their group use them, with or without their consent or knowledge."

PUNR Leaders Views Hungarian Protests, Actions

AU2909162891 Bucharest Programul Unu Radio Network in Romanian 0900 GMT 29 Sep 91

[Statement by Gheorghe Funar, vice president of the Party of National Unity of Romania [PUNR], telephoned to the radio station; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Begin Funar recording] As is well-known, a number of anti-Romanian demonstrations and actions have taken place in Hungary and in our country lately, actions which have a strong insulting and separatist nature regarding Romania. These actions culminated with the establishment and then dissolution of a phantom government of Transylvania, which was created in exile in Budapest.

We informed the Romanian people that, on 29 September, a ceremony of consecration as archbishop for

Bishop Lajos Balint will take place in Alba Iulia. This ceremony will be attended by the Hungarian ambassador in Bucharest and the minister in the Hungarian Government who is charge of the problems of Hungarians living beyond that country's borders. After the ceremony, the participants will travel to Cluj Napoca to attend a service at 1800 at Saint Mihail Church.

During another event of the same nature in Oradea, which took place in the presence of Bishop Laszlo Tokes, the participants sang the Hungarian anthem. To prevent the demonstrations in Alba Julia and Cluj Napoca from degenerating into conflict, we ask the UDMR [Hungarian Democratic Union of Romania] and the leadership of the Roman Catholic Church to abstain from presenting or [?sustaining] certain symbols of the Hungarian state and from initiating actions that might damage the unity and dignity of the Romanian state.

At the same time, we call on the forces of order to take the necessary measures to protect the citizens and institutions of the state of law in the two centers of Romanian cultural life in Transylvania.

We urge the Romanian people to keep calm and quiet and to show the appropriate civic attitude and wisdom.

[Signed] The Party of National Unity of Romania [end recording]

Free Trade Union Leader Views Movement's Spread

LD2909124691 Budapest Kossuth Radio Network in Hungarian 1630 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Interview with Free Trade Unions Spokesman Johan Tufoi in Timisoara, by correspondent Hajnal Mate; place and date not given; from the "Extra" program—live or recorded; Tufoi speaks in Romanian]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Mate] In your view, will this movement now spread perhaps to other towns?

[Tufoi] I very much hope that demonstrations will take place in other places, too, and that trade union leaders will recognize that the action of the opposition forces should be coordinated. In my opinion, the time has come for members of the government to recognize the country's general dissatisfaction. Unfortunately, the Romanian trade union movement is not properly organized.

[Mate] Do you think it is possible that an organization similar to the Polish Solidarity could be formed in Romania? I am asking this because the rather theoritical demands of the opposition parties have not been too popular in Romania. The trade unions could perhaps engage more support by settling everyday problems.

[Tufoi] I agree. I would support a national movement similar to the Polish Solidarity. Unfortunately, we are far from this organizational level, and the government, too, has been trying to baffle the trade union movement. At the moment, there are three different trends. I would mention, among them, that the pro-government trade union shows great understanding about governmental problems, and its leaders are of the view that, in this period, adopting certain unpopular measures is inevitable.

On the other hand, there are the representatives of the old nomenclatura, with their socialist trade union past, and only at last can we speak about free, so-called neutral unions.

Indeed, the opposition parties are not very popular in Romania, for, if nothing else, there are too many of them. We held talks with opposition leaders on several occasions and also often criticised their activities. However, we attribute ultimate importance to the fact that the opposition organizations should not creatte discord, but collaborate, during this period.

Coposu Reelected PNT-CD President

AU2909184691 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1703 GMT 29 Sep 91

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 29/9/1991—The president of the Christian and Democratic National Peasant Party [PNT-CD], Corneliu Coposu, re-elected to that office during the party's congress on September 28, stated to a ROMPRES reporter while referring to the events in the last few days in our country: We think a national unity government is hard to achieve and we do not see it as an efficient solution. It is transitional and it neither crystallizes the situation nor eliminates confusion and disquiet in the country.

The only viable formula to find a way out of this crisis is to create an independent government made up of technocrats to be headed by an independent personality, whose major and unique objective is to stand proxy for current affairs till elections.

The Peasant Party president also showed he was in favor of the idea of early elections "so that the formation of a parliament born from democratic and free elections should lead to normalizing the situation in Romania.

Campeanu Views 'Fundamental Obligation' of SRI

AU2809143191 Bucharest LIBERTATEA in Romanian 23-24 Sep 91 pp 1-2

[Interview with National Liberal Party President Radu Campeanu by Neli Luchian; place and date not given: "Irrespective of the Political Color, All of Us Are Romanians!"]

[Text] [Luchian] In your speech at the general debates regarding the draft law on the operations of the Romanian Intelligence Service [SRI], you firmly spoke out against hostile actions against the country. What prompted this position?

[Campeanu] My reaction, after consulting with other party colleagues, was prompted by a number of very

tangible pieces of information in connection with an irresponsible plot in the northwest of Transylvania. We believe that the National Liberal Party is the most significant opposition party that has, obviously, assumed the greatest responsibility toward the electorate. We have always favored dialogue and balance. We will reject, however, separatist tendencies and any signs of irredentism, and we will definitely reject efforts to create autonomous areas within Romanian territory. As a matter of fact, I have also learned about other initiatives attempting to create in Romania a situation similar to that in Yugoslavia. I hope that the people I am talking about are not irresponsible and understand the exact scope of my words.

[Luchian] Given the fact that you enjoy the reputation of a politician with great public weight, your position acquires special importance....

[Campeanu] As I have said before, I am not one to panic. I am not afraid, but I think that, once again, I should point out that the essential task and fundamental obligation of SRI is and must be to serve and defend the sovereignty and integrity of Romanian territory.

[Luchian] As an outright opponent of the Securitate, You have been one of the defenders of the current draft law under discussion....

[Campeanu] We believe, as do all rational people of this country, that the current law is essential and indispensable for any modern state, including Romania. We are aware, however, that such an institution—through the rights it is given in its area of activity—may also bear the risk of violating the basic human rights of citizens. I hope that a thorough examination during the parliamentary debates of each article will curb this possibility as much as possible. I am pleased to note that the current management of this institution understands that the SRI should have flawless personnel who will compensate for the sins of the past.

Cluj Police Report Uranium Tablets Stolen

AU2809092891 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0847 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 28/9/1991—Experts of the police department in Cluj-Napoca have "detected" an individual, a Cluj inhabitant, who, in association with a network of foreign citizens, had stolen and intended to take out of the country 5 (five) uranium-235 tablets with a total weight of 75 grams, Colonel Victor Marincas, director of the Cluj County Police Department, told a ROMPRES correspondent. The thief of radioactive material was promised 30,000 DM for each tablet. For professional reasons no details in connection with this sensational case were supplied.

Ministry Rejects Bulgarian Pollution Allegations

AU2909164891 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1608 GMT 29 Sep 91

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 29/9/1991—In connection with the news item the Bulgarian Television broadcast Saturday [28 September] evening to show that, owing to the events in Romania and especially to the situation created in the town of Ruse as an outcome of further pollution, the meeting between President Zhelio Zhelev and President Ion Iliescu will no longer take place on October 5, 1991, the Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs specifies, among other things, that the Romanian and Bulgarian Ministries of Foreign Affairs agreed Friday, September 27, 1991 on the postponement of President Ion Iliescu's visit to Bulgaria since the text of the treaty of friendship, good neighborliness and collaboration between the two countries which was to be signed on the occasion could not be elaborated because the Bulgarian representatives did not answer the repeated invitations the Romanian side extended to them to come to Bucharest for negotiations.

As for the reference in the Bulgarian communique that "if Romania does not take urgent measures to end the ecological tragedy in this big Bulgarian city, Bulgaria will seriously analyze the question of recalling its ambassador to Bucharest," the Romanian Foreign Ministry underlines that, following the measurements made by Romanian experts over the period the Bulgarian side referred to, no values of total chloride concentrations were registered beyond the limit permitted (0.1 mg/cu.m.). The Romanian Ministry of the Environment specifies that for this chemical element no maximal concentrations of admissibility in the atmosphere are indicated, because it is not toxic and has no negative influence on the environment and on human health. According to the same ministry the chemical combine of Giurgiu does not produce chlorides, and so the Romanian side cannot be incriminated for the situation extant in the town of Ruse and round it.

The attempt to charge the Romanian side with the pollution in the area on the forthcoming parliamentary elections when ecological matters hold a special place runs counter the spirit of the Declaration on Relations of Good Neighborhood, Friendship and Collaboration between Romania and the Republic of Bulgaria signed in Sofia on September 1991 by the premiers of the two countries.

Federal

Presidency Protests Mesic Message on Toxic Gas

LD2709175491 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1530 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Text] Belgrade, 27 Sep (TANJUG)—The information service of the SFRY Presidency has submitted to TANJUG the following announcement for the public:

"It is with astonishment that the SFRY Presidency learned from the public information media that SFRY Presidency President Stjepan Mesic had sent a report to the U.S. Senate accusing the YPA [Yugoslav People's Army] of using poisonous gases in Croatia.

The SFRY Presidency rejects with abhorence such an insinuation, describes it as completely unfounded, and notes that this was just another act by the SFRY Presidency president presented to the world public without a decision by or consent of the SFRY Presidency.

The SFRY Presidency unreservedly supports the proposal of the Federal Secretariat for National Defense whereby the members of the EC observer mission in Yugoslavia and their experts should carry out all the necessary analyses and other research in order to establish the complete truth with regard to this accusation and the information supplied to the world public.

The U.S. Senate will be informed without delay about the SFRY Presidency stand.

Military Denies Using Chemical Weapons

AU2709145291 Paris AFP in English 1445 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Text] Belgrade, Sept 27 (AFP)—The Yugoslav federal military categorically denied on Friday that it had used chemical weapons in Croatia.

Yugoslav General Vladimir Vojvodic, a toxicologist who long worked as an expert for the United Nations, told a press conference here that the Federal Army had "neither chemical weapons... nor means of delivering them."

The Croatian media has accused Yugoslav forces of having used chemical weapons against two towns in Croatia, but has not reported any related caualties.

Vojvodic said that the gases cited in the Croatian reports included nerve gases capable of "killing thousands of people in several hours." He indicated that the military did possess chemical protection equipment.

Mitrovic Links Foreign Services, Crisis

LD2909151391 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1318 GMT 29 Sep 91

[Text] Belgrade, September 29 (TANJUG)—Yugoslav Deputy Prime Minister Aleksandar Mitrovic today said that the "scenario for the disintegration of Yugoslavia had simultaneously been prepared in the Yugoslav republics of Slovenia and Croatia, although the role of foreign intelligence services—of the United States, Germany, Italy and Austria, as well as some other neighbouring countries—should not be overlooked".

In an interview to TANJUG today, Mitrovic explained that the centers of power in Europe and the world have found followers willing to restore the German-Austro-Hungarian factor on the political scene, as it was done in the period from 1938 to 1941.

In this context, Mitrovic recalled that the Comintern had found its most devoted followers in Slovenia and Croatia who "shot poison arrows on Serbia and the pre-war kingdom of Yugoslavia". He also warned of the "role of the Vatican with its programmes on turning Serbs to uniates or Roman Catholics and crushing their Orthodox faith".

Some key figures in Yugoslavia—Prime Minister Ante Markovic, Foreign Minister Budimir Loncar and Development Minister Bozidar Marendic, who has resigned—have ignored warnings by the Federal Interior Ministry, the state security service and the Yugoslav Army about the dangers threatening Yugoslavia, and their origin.

Mitrovic urged the extension of the moratorium, which expires on October 7, so as to "stop the unilateral dismembering of Yugoslavia", adding that the chairman of the peace conference on Yugoslavia, Lord Carrington, and the European Community should invest their authority to this effect.

Mitrovic believes that the Yugoslav state Presidency and the Yugoslav parliament cannot discontinue work as long as the conference in The Hague is underway and until its conclusions are reached, warning that Yugoslavia as an international subject would be jeopardized should these two institutions stop functioning.

The Federal parliament is solely authorized to decide about changes in the country's order, Mitrovic said, noting that the people should be given an opportunity to directly decide on the future of Yugoslavia. He said that this decision could not be left up to the leaderships of the Yugoslav republics.

Kostic: Stop 'Ustasha' Ideology in Croatia

AU2909143091 Belgrade Radio Belgrade Network in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 29 Sep 91

[Text] If the Croatian leadership were to truly accept the cease-fire agreement, armed clashes in Yugoslavia would stop. This was stated by Dr. Branko Kostic, vice president of the SFRY Presidency, during his visit to the local commune of Sestani in the Bar commune last night. Our Army is not in the service of anyone's hegemony, but in the service of the Yugoslav peoples, Kostic said.

[Begin Kostic recording] The current leadership of Croatia, including Mr. Mesic, Mr. Tudjman, and others—however much we are growling against it, however

much we may be displeased with it—still represent the most peace-loving part of the political leadership of the Croatian Democratic Community. The most extreme wing has still not surfaced and assumed power in Croatia yet, although it has tried to do so on several occasions. Faced with this kind of pressure from the extreme wing of the Croatian Democratic Community, the Croatian state and political leadership obviously knows that it would be crushed by the extreme wing of its party if it tried to find a solution to our joint problems through political dialogue and in a peaceful way.

Why does the war not suit them? The war does not suit them because it is more than clear that there are no plans nor realistic expectations for foreign forces, foreign troops, or foreign divisions coming with their arms to establish an independent state of Croatia for them. The feeling that they cannot rely on foreign forces, and the feeling that in an all-out war they would not stand a chance of winning, is evidently the reason as to why they do not want an all-out war, despite the demands by the extreme wing of the Croatian Democratic Community. For these reasons they are in fact today conducting a silent and undeclared war with Yugoslavia, a war with the Serbian people, who organized themselves there en masse and staged an uprising, a war with the Yugoslav People's Army.

I am convinced that if we had not had such a Yugoslav People's Army, the army which placed itself between the warring parts of the two peoples, between the Croatian and Serbian people in Croatia, we would have had a tragic catastrophe, another genocide in that part of the country. If we did not have such a Yugoslav People's Army, I would not exclude the possibility of a much worse situation regarding interethnic relations in Bosnia-Hercegovina than what it is today, although the situation is still dramatic there.

This is why I am indeed very disappointed with those who consider the Yugoslav People's Army as a great Serbian army that placed itself at the disposal of great Serbian hegemonism and so forth. Everyone should be aware that the war game that was started in Croatia can easily spread. I have already said that it has come closer to the borders of Montenegro, and is already on the border with Montenegro. Therefore, when I spoke in the Montenegrin Assembly I said that the Montenegrins never defended Montenegro on the border, but went as far as Bregalnica, Sezana, Maribor, and other places. They did not do it because they wanted to conquer someone else's territory, but because they wanted to live in freedom in their own republic, in Montenegro.

Therefore, if this specter of Ustasha and Fascist ideology, which is present in Croatia today, is not crushed there, I am telling you that we will face this specter here, perhaps in a somewhat different cloak, with a somewhat different ideology, but with the same ultimate aim, the same final outcome. [end recording]

Prime Minister Estimates 'Disintegration' Cost

LD2709133891 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1146 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Text] Sarajevo, September 27 (TANJUG)—Yugoslav Prime Minister Ante Markovic said today that the "damage resulting from the disintegration of Yugoslavia, not including damages caused by the war in Croatia, stands at between 17 and 20 billion dollars."

Markovic said this in an interview to the Sarajevo daily OSLOBODJENJE, answering the questions asked by viewers of Sarajevo Television (Yugoslav Republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina).

"We need the help of the developed world," Markovic said, pointing out that "Europe is prepared to help Yugoslavia, under the condition that peace be established in the country and agreements be reached on its future."

"The concept of the Federal Government's economic policy has dissolved all monopolies, including those which did not suit republican political leaderships, which would have lost power without those monopolies," Markovic said, explaining that "these leaderships used all means available to undermine the Federal Government's economic policy."

"I believe that any attempt to impose a political solution by force, at the expense of others—from changing the exterior borders of a country to changing its interior borders—is a shortsighted policy, which can only result in bloodshed and a civil war of attrition," Markovic said.

Secretariat Reopens Croatian, Slovenian Airspace

LD2909162391 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1326 GMT 29 Sep 91

[Text] Belgrade, September 29 (TANJUG)—The Federal Transporation Ministry today announced that the upper air space over the Zagreb region (over the Yugoslav republics of Croatia and Slovenia) was now open, adding that foreign airlines and flight controls have been informed about this.

Efforts are being made for the resumption of air traffic in the lower air space and with airports in the Zagreb region, it is said in a statement issued by the Federal transportation ministry.

The air space over the Zagreb region was closed on September 15 after Croatian authorities cut off telephone lines and electricity to the regional flight control.

A day later, on September 16, Croatian police forced the employees of the regional flight control to leave the building and banned them from entering the premises.

Istria Command To 'Protect' Pula Army Barracks

LD2909151591 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1310 GMT 29 Sep 91

[Text] Pula, Sept 29 (TANJUG)—The command of the national guard for Istria, a region in Croatia's northern coast, will mobilize a part of its defence forces which in future will "protect" the barracks of the Yugoslav People's Army (JNA) in the Pula region.

The decision was substantiated by frequent shooting over the past few days in the Pula municipality, in the barracks or in their vicinity which, as set out, representatives of the Yugoslav Army describe as attacks outside the circle of the barracks.

The national guard command for Istria estimates that this is a new form of tactics of the Pula garrison, estimating that such incidents will increase which is the reason counter measures are being announced.

The command points out that it will do everything to guard Istria from the devastation of war as a strategically important region of Croatia which, when the war passes, will help in the renewal of areas of the republic which were destroyed in the war clashes.

The garrison command in Pula reported that unknown armed groups used mortars, hand missile-launchers and fire arms in an attack on two Yugoslav Army barracks in this city on September 26.

Representatives of the police station and national guard in Pula told the military organs that the attack was organized by extreme groups with the aim to disrupt the peace in the region where so far there were no clashes.

New Pula Garrison Naval Commander Assumes Duties

LD2809220891 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1248 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] Pula, 28 Sep (TANJUG)—The Pula garrison commander, Rear Admiral Vladimir Barovic, yesterday turned over his command to Captain Dusan Rakic. Rear Admiral Barovic is taking up a new, more senior post in the Split Naval District headquarters, it is reported in a brief announcement today by the information department of the Pula Garrison.

Rear Admiral Barovic has been the commander in Pula for the past two months, and he is going to take up the post of Split Naval District chief of staff in the place of Fridrih Moreti, who has retired. The new Pula Naval Sector commander, Dusan Rakic, has been the Pula garrison chief of staff for the past two months.

Navy Removes Korcula Island Blockade

LD2909145691 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 29 Sep 91

[Excerpt] An end has probably come to the tension, fear, and panic which the citizens of Korcula, especially the residents of Vela Luka, have lived with over the past three days. All Yugoslav Navy ships from Vela Luka Bay and surroundings left this area and set off, most probably toward Vis, between 1330 and 1345. They were deployed there in a threatening way to ensure security while moving equipment from Privala military base, near Vela Luka, in the extreme northwest of Korcula Island. As soon as the enemy ships changed their direction and left this area, the all-clear was given by the local communities of Vela Luka and Blato for the first time since 1340 on 28 September. This was at 1353. [passage omitted]

Uzice Garrison Command Denounces 600 Deserters

LD2909174591 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1515 GMT 29 Sep 91

[Text] Nevesinje, Yugoslavia, Sept 29 (TANJUG)—The command of the Uzice garrison of the Yugoslav People's Army (YPA) said today the sole reason for the desertion of 600 reservists from their artillery unit was 'a cowardly attitude towards the obligation and duty to defend their homeland.'

Six hundred YPA reservists from the town of Valjevo in the western part of the Yugoslav Republic of Serbia yesterday left without permission positions near the town of Nevesinje in the Yugoslav republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina.

The command said the 'reasons given by the deserters to justify this shameful act before their people have no sound basis.'

There is as yet no official information about the reason for the action by the Valjevites. Unofficial sources said they had spoken of insufficient training and inadequate armament.

The authenticity of the deserters' claims is indirectly confirmed by the command of the Uzice Corps when it says that the 'unit possesses modern combat equipment on which the (would-be) deserters were trained in July and August. All material preconditions for the unit's welfare were also secured.'

According to the statement, the unit is being replenished with new conscripts and reservists, and numerous volunteers.

Several hundred YPA reservists from Valjevo last week left positions in Eastern Slavonia, claiming that much had been done quite outside command logic and that they had been shot at by 'our own aviation and artillery.'

BORBA Poll Shows Popularity of Politicians

LD2809150591 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1158 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] Belgrade, September 28 (TANJUG)—The president of the Yugoslav republic of Macedonia, Kiro Gligorov, received the most points as the most popular Yugoslav politician, while Bosnia-Hercegovina President Alija Izetbegovic was second and Yugoslav Presidency member from Macedonia Vasil Tupurkovski was third.

These three politicians received the most points in a telephone poll conducted in all parts of Yugoslavia (200 polled in each of the six Yugoslav republics) by the Belgrade daily BORBA.

The polled had to grade, from 1 to 10, the 14 leading Yugoslav politicians.

In a similar poll in June, Prime Minister Ante Markovic was first (he was now sixth), Defence Minister, General of the Army Veljko Kadijevic was second (he was now 14th) and Vasil Tupurkovski was third, like now.

The presidents of the Yugoslav republics of Croatia and Serbia, Franjo Tudjman and Slobodan Milosevic, were 11th and 12th. In June, Tudjman was 14th and Milosevic 13th.

The poll showed that 52.8 percent of the polled believe that the political situation in Yugoslavia will deteriorate, 17.9 percent believe it will improve, 14.1 percent say it will not change and 15.2 percent did not reply.

In June, 61.4 percent of the polled believed that the political situation would improve, and only 12.8 percent said it would deteriorate.

International

Loncar Addresses UN General Assembly Session

LD2709214491 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1655 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Text] New York, 27 Sep (TANJUG)—You all know Yugoslavia from the time when it—as one of the countries in the winning antifascist coalition—was among the first to sign the UN Charter. You know it as a country that was a factor of European stability for decades. Now, Yugoslavia is worrying not only international forums, but its friends throughout the world, too. These are the words the head of the Yugoslav diplomatic service, Budimir Loncar, used to describe Yugoslavia's current position in the world as he addressed the general debate at the 46th regular session of the UN General Assembly. He heads the Yugoslav delegation.

In his deeply emotional address two days ago, Budimir Loncar also acquainted the Security Council with the same situation. Recalling his own words that Yugoslavia was in effect condemning itself, something that might amount to a paradox, he expounded the view that it is precisely the United Nations where one should discuss his own misfortunes and responsibilities, because this is the only way of rallying support and aid if need be.

Listing once again the Council's recommendations and decisions, expressed in its resolution regarding Yugoslavia, Loncar stressed that "Yugoslavia itself initiated and welcomed the peace mission of the EC, CSCE and the United Nations, but that does not mean that we have ceded our own responsibility to others while expecting them to do for us what we alone can and must do by ourselves."

Although we do not wish to justify ourselves in front of the facts, Loncar said, we must say that the Yugoslav crisis is part of the general historical upheavals which affect Central and Eastern Europe and the USSR, as well as other parts of the world, and that "it has assumed an additional and still deeper tragic character due to the historic, political, and ethnic characteristics of the Yugoslav area."

According to Loncar's assessment, the tragedy of Yugoslavia "lies in the ominous concentration of problems and challenges by the new post-cold war Europe and the world," so that "it is clear that it (Yugoslavia) must be redefined," that a formula must be found which will correspond both to the legitimate national aspirations and to the contemporary needs for integration on new foundations."

There is hope for such an outcome, according to Loncar, and it can even be said that there are prospects on the horizon. The proof of this, he said, "lies in the breakthrough in the accumulated distrust which occurred a few days ago when the cessation of hostilities was agreed."

"We are deeply aware, Loncar said, that with our crisis we must not in any way threaten others, especially those close to us, our neighbors. This also presupposes the highest level of understanding and patience on the part of our neighbors. Yesterday, my colleague Mr. Kapllani, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Albania, acted exactly in the opposite manner. He poured oil on the fire. It is not necessary that I say anything more about this, although Mr. Kapllani devoted three pages of his speech to my country," Loncar said in conclusion of his plea on Yugoslavia, apparently with full effect on the participants in the Assembly. Yesterday, the Albanian minister, not sparing the abuses, attacked Yugoslavia in the General Assembly in a letter to the Council chairman, and later at a news conference. As usual, his words had little effect on the audience.

In his today's speech, Loncar also spoke of world trends, emphasizing the greatly increased influence of the United Nations in the restructured world of the post-Cold War period. In this context, he emphasized that with the disappearance of the polarized world, the meaning and the potential of the policy of non-alignment

are not past history but, on the contrary, Loncar said, they are being newly motivated.

"It is natural that the old system is being primarily demolished by those who built it on the premises of ideological influence and military might. However, the building of the new system of international relations must not be done under the shadow of new supremacies," Loncar concluded, emphasizing that the building of the new world architecture should not be done without the forces and influences of all countries.

Mesic Cited on Meeting With Perez de Cuellar

LD2809211691 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1917 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] United Nations, 28 Sep (TANJUG)—Stipe Mesic, President of the SFRY Presidency, had a half-hour talk today with UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar on, it was said, the implementation of the Security Council resolution on Yugoslavia. The meeting in the UN building was also attended by the head of the permanent Yugoslav mission attached to the United Nations, Darko Silovic, as well as by the head of "the Croation Office" in Washington, Frane Golem.

During the talks there was also discussion of the Yugoslav political situation which, Mesic said, "cannot be good if resolutions are being adopted on Yugoslavia."

"If there is good will and a political will in Yugoslavia to resolve the crisis peacefully, things will go ahead more rapidly. If this is not the case, mechanisms will have to be created which will help bring about peace in Yugoslavia—European and world mechanisms," Mesic said in reply to a question from TANJUG correspondent.

Perez de Cuellar himself, according to Mesic, announced his personal involvement in the Yugoslav crisis, in keeping with the recommendation of the Security Council resolution on Yugoslavia, and if the situation were to demand it, his own personal mediation in Yugoslavia as well.

Golem's remark that they also discussed the possibility of engaging peace-keeping forces was commented on by Mesic who said that "the method of adopting such decisions is complicated."

"If necessary, it is not ruled out," Mesic said. "The best thing would be if no '(blue) helmets' are needed and the crisis would be resolved by political means and there is a political will to resolve things."

Analyzing his visit to Washington yesterday, Stjepan Mesic said that it was successful, that he had talks with several Senators—Dole, Damato, Nichols—and also with Assistant Secretary of State Eagleburger and Security Adviser Scowcroft, that he attended a meeting with the International Relations Committee, and that "they are clear that America must be more involved and that both Serbia and the Yugoslav Army must be forced in some way not to impose solutions by force."

"Obviously, any change in the borders without regard to whether they imply some other meaning such as—all Serbs in one state—it is clear that there is nevertheless a desire to change the borders. [sentence as received] But they should not be changed. Especially if it is understood that whatever is invested in this they will nevertheless not be changed—all this is an unnecessary effort and unnecessary casualties", Mesic said in reply to a question on border changes.

Asked what he thinks about possible Croatian claims for changing the borders, Mesic explicitly replied: "Croatia has no intentions to change the borders."

On the accusations about the use of poison gases by the Army, Mesic replied that "he has been informed that they were used in two places and that they have been identified," but that, because reports to the contrary also exist, it is best for a neutral commission of experts to pass judgement on all this, as requested by the Croatian Minister of Health.

Mesic, it was stated by those accompanying him, is this evening traveling to Yugoslavia by private plane.

They were not able to say anything in the Embassy in Washington or in the Yugoslav mission attached to the United Nations or in the Consulate in New York about the activities of Mesic in Washington and New York; only that the "Croatian Office" in Washington, which is in contact only with Zagreb press correspondents, was able to give details.

There is similar mystery surrounding other Yugoslav and Croatian officials who have been wandering around America during the past few days—Presidency member Vasil Tupurkovski, here on a private visit, as well as the head of the recently created Croatian Ministry of Foreign Affairs,Dr Zvonimir Separovic.

Mesic Comments on Meetings in Washington

LD2809135891 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2246 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Text] Washington, 27 Sep (TANJUG)—The Croatian claim that the Yugoslav Army used chemical agents against its own people, and the Army denial, have yet to be investigated and proved, SFRY Presidency President Stipe Mesic said today while on a private visit to the United States. Replying to journalists questions in Washington on evidence to support the claim of the use of chemical weapons, he said that this should be proved by an "international commission."

Although he stated that several hundred people suffered the effects of chemical agents during Yugoslav Army attacks on Vinkovci and Petrinja this month, Mesic was unable to produce evidence. More precisely, he said that he had "reports" from doctors and police along with "claims", but that substantiation should be carried out by an international commission.

Mesic stated today that the purpose of his visit was not the substantiation of chemical weapon use, but an invitation from the U.S. Congress Foreign Relations Committee to explain to them the global situation in Yugoslavia. Stipe Mesic had meetings behind closed doors with senators from the Foreign Relations Committee, chaired by Mesic's host, Claiborne Pell. Journalists were not allowed to be present at that one-hour meeting, but according to a statement from the Foreign Relations Committee political director, Gerald Christianson, the Presidency President said the presence of the adviser of the Yugoslav Embassy, who waited outside the closed doors, was not necessary. Present at the meeting was the head of the Croatian mission in the United States, Frane Golem, who is permanently accompanying Mesic. At the close of the meeting with the senators, Stipe Mesic told journalists that his hosts "understand our situation", but do not know how to assist us, and that are concerned by our war, which, as he said, was "dirty and aggressive." Reflecting on what was said behind closed doors, Mesic stressed that it was necessary to "halt the war and the ambitions for the creation of a Greater Serbia."

The Presidency President accused the Army of "carrying out a coup" and of making autonomous decisions, "headed by Kadijevic and Adzic, and aided by Milosevic, Branko Kostic, and Jovic." He told journalists in the Congress building that Serbia and the Army were "allied in the creation of a Greater Serbia", and had previously "driven Slovenia" out of Yugoslavia.

Red Cross Suspends Activities 'Temporarily'

LD2809133591 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1208 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] Geneva, 28 Sep (TANJUG)—The Red Cross has, as agencies report from Geneva, decided today to suspend temporarily its activities in the warring regions in Yugoslavia, following the recent attack on a convoy of vehicles of this international organization in Croatia.

The International Committee for the Red Cross [ICRC] will continue its activities only when "fresh guarantees of the safety of its teams" are offered by "all the warring parties in Yugoslavia," Karen Sadler, press spokesperson for the organization, announced.

She also gave details of the said armed attack on the convoy of Red Cross vehicles. She said the Red Cross team was attacked near Lipik, on its way from Zagreb toward Pakrac. The column of seven Red Cross buses, which were also carrying three representatives of the organization from Switzerland, was heading for Pakrac, from where it was to transfer 270 psychiatric patients to safety. This was approved by the Croatian and the Federal authorities.

It is not known who opened fire on the column of vehicles. There were no injuries.

There are currently 26 ICRC representatives in Yugoslavia.

Slovenia

Interior Minister on Passport Requirements

LD2809222491 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1724 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] Ljubljana, Sept 28 (TANJUG)—Minister of Interior Affairs of Slovenia Igor Bavcar has announced that after October 7 people from other Yugoslav Federal units will enter the northwestern republic with passports.

"We regard those who are not Slovenian citizens as foreigners," Bavcar said in an interview published in the Ljubljana daily DELO today.

Slovenia on June 25 unilaterally proclaimed independence and sovereignty, which are temporarily "frozen" for the duration of the moratorium concluded by the various sides in Yugoslavia and the European Community on July 7.

On the territory of this republic, Bavcar explained, "all republican regulations on travel documents, foreigners, borders and car registration plates will be in effect."

"In the economic sphere Slovenia will have to secure the independence of its own monetary and economic system and protection from the Yugoslav inflation," Bavcar stressed.

Bavcar said he was personally in favour of a Slovenian currency, but he warned that techical obstacles existed and that a name for the currency unit had not even been chosen.

After the expiry of the moratorium, October 7, "Slovenia will end all forms of participation in the Federal state, which has reached its end," Bavcar noted.

Bavcar specified that the "manner of reacting in Europe and its inability to accomplish anything will have far-reaching consequences for the entire system of collective security in Europe."

"We must have no illusions about ceurope—Bavcar holds—because Europe is guided by diverse interests and not by altruism and special benevolence towards small nations."

"Only reliance on one's own strength can guarantee that we reach the point where we can through democracy and European mechanisms negotiate about resolving conflicts," Bavcar said.

Swiss May Guarantee Slovenian Currency

LD2809124191 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0926 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] Ljubljana, September 28 (TANJUG)—The Ljubljana daily DNEVNIK today writes, citing "unofficial but well-informed sources", that "under certain conditions, Switzerland is willing to act as guarantor of the value of Slovenia's currency", the lipa.

The paper says that some Slovenian goldsmiths, with business contacts in Switzerland, have learned that talks about this are underway.

One of the preconditions is that the lipa be printed in Switzerland and that it continue to be completely in charge of the printing, DNEVNIK writes.

The paper claims this would make the "lipa an internationally recognized hard currency".

The Yugoslav republic of Slovenia unilaterally declared its secession from Yugoslavia on June 25, but the E.C. acted as mediator in placing a three-month moratorium on the act on July 7.

Croatia

Slovenia, Croatia Agree To Coordinate Moves

LD2909174191 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1356 GMT 29 Sep 91

[Text] Zagreb, Sept 29 (TANJUG)—The representatives of the governments of the Yugoslav Republics of Slovenia and Croatia indicted on Saturday the necessity of 'mutual coordination' with respect to their 'relationship to Yugoslavia, defence, internal security, borders and foreign affairs.'

According to Croatian Radio reports, this was done at a meeting of delegations of the two goverments in Mokricama, a border region between the two republics. The delegations were headed by the prime ministers of Croatia and Slovenia—Franjo Greguric and Lojze Peterle.

The representatives of the two governments assessed that 'the most important agreement at the moment is to deny to the Yugoslav federal organs the mandate for representation and coordination,' Croatian Radio cites, carrying a statement of the Croatian Information Ministry.

Coordination is possible only among representatives of sovereign Republics, the government representatives underscored, and 'from now on the Republics will coordinate stands on the basis of The Hague conference, concerning themselves primarily with the debate and agreement on legal succession.'

Radio Slovenia, which also reported about the meeting, said that the two governments discussed relations among states, particularly in view of the fact that the expiry of the moratorium on October 7 is nearing.

The moratorium relates to all unilateral decisions of various Yugoslav parties. They established it as a three-month period under the so-called Brioni declaration, which was signed by the European Community together with the Yugoslav parties.

Government Rejects Loncar, Backs UN Resolution

LD2709184391 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1710 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Quotation marks as received]

[Text] Zagreb, 27 Sep (TANJUG)—The government of the Republic of Croatia met today and adopted a statement in connection with the UN Security Council [UNSC] resolution on Yugoslavia. It stresses in its conclusions that "the government accepts Resolution 713 of the UNSC on Yugoslavia as a basis for peace efforts and dialogue in Yugoslavia, with the cooperation of the EC member countries and member-participants in the CSCE.

The government passed a conclusion whereby it "rejects the right of Budimir Loncar, federal secretary for foreign affairs, to take actions and make public appearances on behalf of the Republic of Croatia." The government notes that "Budimir Loncar, federal secretary for foreign affairs, continually represents the policy of equal responsibility for the Yugoslav crisis, equating the aggressors—the Republic of Serbia and the Yugoslav People's Army—with the attacked Republic of Croatia." Such biased stands on the part of Mr. Loncar culminated with his appearance at the UNSC session.

At the same time, the Croatian Government rejects the right of Darko Silovic, the permanent representative of the SFRY in the UN, to take actions and appear in the UN because, stresses the government statement, he failed to demonstrate readiness to represent the interests of the Republic of Croatia, which had been openly attacked...."

In the adopted conclusions the government supports the continuation of the conference on Yugoslavia, including all its established mechanisms, in order that the conflicts be resolved in a peaceful way and through negotiations during the conference itself.

Within its jurisdiction the government will "carry out and observe the obligations determined by the cease-fire agreements of 19 and 22 September this year," stresses the government of the Republic of Croatia at the end of its statement.

Ministry Calls for Disbanding Illegal Formations

LD2709210891 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1742 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Text] Zagreb, 27 Sep (TANJUG)—The Ministry for Defense and the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Croatia announced today that all individuals, regardless of party, national, or religious affiliation, are welcome to join Croatia's Armed Forces and defend our common homeland.

However, any formation of armed forces outside the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the National Guard, or Territorial Defense will be regarded as an unlawful

private army. In such cases the authorities of the Republic of Croatia will take measures to disband them, a statement broadcast by Croatian radio says.

The same source also reports on a statement made by Croatian Defense Minister Ivan Milas, who stresses that there is only one form of armed forces in the republic's territory. According to the republican Law on Defense, "the armed forces constitute one compact entity and comprise the Croatian Army and the National Guard Corps," Milas made clear.

The same law also regulates management of and command over the Armed Forces. Consequently, any armed group that is not in line with this law is unlawful.

"Consequently, there is also no legal ground to treat Mr. Dobroslav Paraga's (chairman of the Croatian Party of Rights) party formations differently," Milas stressed. He noted that the markings of Croatia's Armed Forces are uniform and regulated by law.

Croatian Defense Law Comes Into Force

LD2709223491 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1049 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Excerpts] Zagreb, 27 Sep (TANJUG)—The latest issue of 'NARODNE NOVINE,' the Official Gazette of the Republic of Croatia, has published the law on defense of the Republic of Croatia, by which this law has now come into force. The law was adopted at the session of the Croatian Assembly on 26 June and it was proclaimed two days later by the order of Dr. Franjo Tudjman, president of the Republic of Croatia.

The law determines the rights and duties of the citizens and state and other bodies in the defense of sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity of the constitutionally determined order in the Republic of Croatia.

According to the provisions of the law, it is laid down that the armed forces of the Republic of Croatia represent a united whole and that they are composed of the Croatian Army and the National Guard Corps. The armed forces are composed of ground forces, the air force, and the navy. As stipulated by the law, all political activity in them is prohibited and military personnel and people serving in the armed forces of Croatia are not allowed to be members of any political party. [passage omitted]

The law states that from the date this law comes into force the recruits, citizens of the Republic of Croatia, will not be sent to serve military service in the Yugoslav People's Army outside the territory of the Republic of Croatia. "Should a confederal agreement of the union of sovereign states stipulate that certain aspects and branches of the armed forces will be organized on a common basis, the provision of this law which determines otherwise will not apply."

It is also laid down that the reserve cadre of the territorial defense is part of the National Guard Corps in an emergency. The members of the National Guard Corps will be subject to the law on internal affairs until the adoption of the law on the service in the armed forces.

Party of Yugoslavs Chairman Resigns

LD2809093591 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0902 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Text] Split, 27 Sep (TANJUG)—Split lawyer Mirko Franceski, chairman of the Party of Yugoslavs [Stranka Jugoslavena] for Yugoslavia, tendered his resignation from the post. Explaining his resignation, which he sent to the main committee of the party in Sarajevo, Franceski cites as the reasons for this action the circumstances under which contentious issues are not being resolved by agreement and negotiation but by armed force, which, with "its enormous technical and human potential, has placed itself in the role of arbitrater over and above the people, so that it has indeed ceased to be either Yugoslav or of the people."

Franceski stresses that this has been realized by many branches of the Party of Yugoslavs throughout Croatia which have ceased all activity, not wishing to become the unwitting instrument of aggressive anti-Croatian propaganda and destructive war.

Army Reportedly Uses Toxic Gas in Vinkovci

LD2809235791 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 2300 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Report by Mirko Hunjadi from Vinkovci]

[Text] A new weapon has appeared on the Vinkovci battlefield. We are mentioning it for the first time since we started reporting on war operations. A statement from the special civil defense unit for radiological, chemical, and biological protection says that at around 2030 tonight, poisonous gas, most probably phosgene and diphosgene, was released from helicopters over the part of Vinkovci called Novo Selo, that is, the western part of Vinkovci. Symptoms are dry mouth, nausea, vomiting, and weakness. So far we have not received any details on a large number of inhabitants being affected by these gases because the people of Vinkovci are in their shelters tonight.

Firearms are not silent in Vinkovci either. Explosions and shooting are taking place in the town and battles are being waged in villages around Vinkovci.

Zagreb Radio Reports Downing Plane Near Osijek

LD2909163891 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 1600 GMT 29 Sep 91

[Report by Dubravka Vuksanic for Croatian Radio from Osijek]

[Excerpt] Serbian terrorists of the occupying Army are active in the municipality of Osijek this Sunday afternoon. At 1440 they opened mortar fire from Silas on Leslovo. At the same time light weapons fire was opened on Laslovo from Ada. After 1500, about 20 mortars were fired from the direction of Bilje at an area near Podravlje.

One good piece of news: a new achievement by the courageous defenders of Osijek—one occupying aircraft was shot down at about 1500 near (?Nemetine). [passage omitted]

Shelling Continues From Baranja Along Drava River

LD2809090391 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 0800 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] At 0940, another series of mortar attacks began on Belisce. Attacks and shelling from multiple rocket launchers and mortars was continuous throughout last night and this morning. It is no longer possible to establish the number of shells fired, and according to Valpovo hospital information, people were wounded in the attacks. The shelling began shortly after 2300, first in the village of Nard, following at Bistrinci, Belisce, and Valpovo, lasting virtually until dawn. Belisce was then attacked twice. This is the fourth day that the occupation army stationed in Baranja has, with brief interludes, been displaying its artillery strength along the Drava River area covering some 30 kms. The shelling is clearly random due to the fact that yesterday afternoon a single shell was responsible for wounding five children in the village of Gat. The unscrupulous attacks are continuing unabated and forces have been regrouping and digging in for some time on the Baranja side of the Drava. National Guard Corps units are in control of all the defense lines and are not responding to the constant provocations.

Serbian 'Terrorists' Continue Pakrac Attacks

LD2809082291 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 0600 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] After relative calm around midnight, Pakrac was attacked again this morning at about 0700 [0500 GMT] with heavy artillery fire. Pakrac is coming under fire from cannons, multiple rocket launchers, and machine guns from the dug-in positions of the Serbian terrorists.

Zagreb Radio Says Air Attacks 'Flatten' Dobrovac

LD2809230391 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 2200 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] The latest news from the municipality of Pakrac indicates that the village of Dobrovac was flattened in an air attack this evening. Today, Pakrac and vicinity were exposed to attacks from all types of weapons from all directions. The courageous defenders of Pakrac have now resisted artillery and infantry and, from time to time, even air attacks for six days. None of the Croatian defenders were killed, but 12 of them were wounded. Ten civilians were also wounded, while four perished.

The Serbian terrorist forces keep attacking Pakrac from Kusonje, Ceovica, Apaga, Subotska, Capljica, Bujavica, and Sedlar. Among other buildings, a Catholic church and an Orthodox church were set afire and their spires destroyed. Almost every house in the town has been damaged; there is no electricity, water, or gas, and phone communications are out. Snipers and other fifth-columnists are particularly active at night.

3 Bombs Dropped Over Sibenik; One Person Injured

LD2909134391 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in English 1305 GMT 29 Sep 91

[Text] The worst enemy provocation in the Sibenik area since the signing of the cease-fire happened today around noon. A single enemy fighter bomber flying towards Sibenik from the direction of Knin flew low over the Sibenik area and dropped three bombs on the village of (?Tuvaz). One person was injured. The Sibenik information center has warned harvesters in the district to be on guard because there is an ever increasing threat of aerial assault.

Serbia

Jovanovic Criticizes Baker UN Statement

LD2809123291 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0707 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] Belgrade, Sept 28 (TANJUG)—Foreign Minister of Serbia Vladislav Jovanovic last night said that "there is an underlying unfounded thesis in the statement U.S. Secretary of State James Baker made at the U.N. General Assembly session on some kind of a greater Serbia, which is a colossal substitution of theses regarding the causes of the crisis in Yugoslavia."

Jovanovic told Belgrade television station Politika that to his great consternation "Mr. Baker has been duped by a biassed source of information and even by the thesis of a greater Serbia which is known to be a hundred years old".

According to Jovanovic the thesis originates in "the Austrian kitchen", behind which the Austro-Hungarian monarchy concealed its conquering ambitions in the Balkans.

"Serbia, if it had wished a greater Serbia, could have achieved this much earlier, particularly after the two World Wars from which it emerged as victor," Jovanovic said.

Asked how he explains a certain change in attitude of Germany, Jovanovic replied that "it is obvious that Germany has realized that it cannot effect the recognition of Slovenia and Croatia as it had imagined, on the basis of its political clout, and even by the abuse of its allies."

According to Jovanovic, it turned out "that it is unacceptable to urge support for separatism and for the recognition of independence of republics which, contrary to international law, wish to secede from Yugoslavia."

Government Adopts Measures on Prices

LD2709205591 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1716 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Text] Belgrade, 27 Sep (TANJUG)—The government of the Republic of Serbia has adopted a provision on the prices of flour and bread, which in practice will bring about a reduction in the existing prices of bread, so that they will not be higher than 16- 18.1 dinars per kilogram. According to today's government announcement, in future it will not be possible to increase the prices of edible refined oil and pasteurized and sterilized milk without the agreement of the highest executive authority of Serbia. At the same time, according to this provision, the commercial margins have been frozen at the existing level.

The decision to increase the prices of meat, sugar, detergent, and books for primary and secondary education will in future have to be submitted to the competent organs at least 30 days before the prices come into effect, the government announcement says.

It is also emphasized that the government of Serbia has no intention of exercizing wider control over prices and that it will continue to work in this field through measures of development and economic policies. At the same time it will resolutely fight against the phenomena of monopolistic formation of prices, the statement by the highest executive authority of Serbia emphasizes in conclusion.

Assembly Conclusions on Army, Mobilization

LD2709211191 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2017 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Excerpt] Belgrade, 27 Sep (TANJUG)—The People's Assembly of Serbia supports the Yugoslav Peoples' Army [YPA] in carrying out its constitutionally stipulated tasks, particularly in the territory of Croatia, and calls for more effective implementation of its transformation. In the course of their activities, all the republic's administrative organs and organizations should help and enable the YPA and Serbia's Territorial Defense to carry out their constitutionally and legally endorsed tasks.

This is stressed in conclusions made by the People's Assembly of Serbia, which at its closed session of 26 September discussed the problem of mobilization in the republic. This was announced today.

Noting that an increasing number of attacks by Croatia's paramilitary formations on YPA members and the Serbian people require a partial mobilization of one part of the wartime units of Serbia, the Serbian Assembly stated that in most parts of the republic there had been a great deal of success in the number of reservists who had heeded the draft, although there had been some shortcomings in certain parts of the republic. This is why the need was particularly stressed for the government to take measures to help in every way the commanding bodies and units of the YPA and the Territorial Defense Headquarters in their consistent implementation of legislation on carrying out mobilization.

The assembly insists on preventing deviations such as draft dodging by reservists and on sending reservists to commanding bodies and units in a timely fashion and deploying them evenly, regardless of their social status, origin, and so on. It was also concluded that funds should be secured to help finance mobilization expenses, and that reservists, their families, and providers of facilities and equipment should be compensated for their services.

In the assembly's view, conditions should be created to attract a higher number of volunteers. The YPA's efforts to install expert officer corps and reach a high degree of combat preparedness of reservists and their units should be supported. [passage omitted]

Bosnia-Hercegovina

General Mobilization Announced in Bosanska Krajina

AU2909192291 Sarajevo Radio Sarajevo Network in Serbo-Croatian 1800 GMT 29 Sep 91

[Report by Dragan Stegic—recorded]

[Text] Lieutenant General Nikola Uzelac, commander of the Banja Luka Corps of the Yugoslav People's Army [YPA], today announced a general mobilization in Bosanska Krajina on Banja Luka Radio. Dragan Stegic reports from Banja Luka:

[Begin Stegic] All men between 20 and 60 years of age who are able to fight are asked to report immediately to the units of the YPA and the Territorial Defense because time is running out. I ask all the organs of authority on the territory of Bosanska Krajina and Slavonia, and all people of good will, regardless of their religious or nationality affiliation or party membership, to fulfill their patriotic duty and defend the parts of Yugoslavia in which people want to live together and build their futures together.

This is how Lieutenant General Nikola Uzelac, commander of the Banja Luka Corps of the YPA, addressed the listeners of Banja Luka Radio this morning in a live program that went for one and one-half hours. Speaking about the reasons for undertaking these measures, Uzelac stressed that the Croatian forces are not observing the truce and that they using every cease-fire to strengthen the positions of their forces. This is why the YPA will no longer hesitate in using all forces and available means to stop the realization of fascist aims of the Croatian leadership.

Uzelac also appealed to all Muslims, Croats, Serbs, and members of other peoples and nationalities from this region to remain harmonious and to report to units under the sole command of the YPA. We have decided and are ready, Uzelac said, to launch a decisive offensive for freedom and peace, for a common homeland, for our Yugoslavia. We will most certainly win the victory or we will no longer live.

Answering numerous questions by the listeners of today's program, Uzelac also stressed that all those who fail to respond to the call- up or those who desert will be punished according to the law. Asked whether the volunteers will be placed under the command of the YPA, he said that the term volunteer exists only until one joins military units. After that everyone is the same.

Uzelac also answered a series of questions about the current situation on the battlefield, stressing that the units under his command were attacked three times yesterday and that a few minor wounds were the only casualties. He also spoke about treason by some high-ranking officers of the YPA, whom he said are going to be punished.

There were no major excesses in Banja Luka today except for the understandable anxiety among the residents of Banja Luka. It was a normal day. There are more military reservists around, and movements by military vehicles have intensified. This has been a normal thing in this town for the last 15 days. We do not have information on the response by the reservists. A quiet fall night is gradually coming to Banja Luka.

Macedonia

Ministry Tells Conscripts To Ignore Call-Up

LD2709163291 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1439 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Text] Skopje, Sep 27 (TANJUG)—The Defence Ministry of Macedonia today urged Army conscripts and reservists in this Yugoslav republic to ignore call-ups for military service or exercises.

The ministry said today it had sent out its appeal on the basis of the conclusions reached by the republican government and parliament on September 17 this year and after learning that the September class of Yugoslav People's Army [YPA] conscripts and reservists had already received their call-up papers.

The breakdown in communications between the Macedonian authorities and the YPA began two months ago.

Late in August the Macedonian Interior Ministry confiscated all files on YPA recruits and reservists in the republic.

During August and September a number of protests were held in the capital Skopje and other towns in the republic where demonstrators demanded that YPA soldiers and reservists from Macedonia not be sent to the crisis areas in Yugoslavia.

The clashes in Croatia between that republic's armed forces and armed Serbs, in which YPA units also took part, have resulted in the deaths of a number of Macedonian YPA soldiers.

Albanians Demand Rights in Protest Rallies

LD2809190191 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1302 GMT 28 Sep 91

[Text] Skopje, 28 Sep (TANJUG)—A half-hour protest rally for peace by the citizens of Albanian nationality was held today at noon in Skopje central square and was attended by some 10,000 people.

Several demands were made at the rally which was organized by the Albanian parties and other associations of Albanians. Among them, the most important were: the Albanians in Macedonia should receive nation status, equality of the Albanian language, education in Albanian in secondary and high schools, recognition of the Albanian flag, establishment of municipal assemblies in Tetovo and Gostivar where the Albanian parties achieved victory in the past multiparty elections, and the new Macedonian constitution should be adopted by consensus. According to the rally organizers, this would represent a guarantee for peace and harmony in Macedonia.

The speeches at the rally were made in three languages: Albanian, Macedonian, and English. Slogans and banners were also written in these languages.

A protest peace rally was also held exactly at noon in the Tetovo central square, attended by some 8,000 citizens of Albanian nationality. A similar protest meeting by citizens of Albanian nationality was held at noon in Kumanovo.

Montenegro

Bulatovic Satisfied With Defense Preparations

AU2909171591 Belgrade Radio Belgrade Network in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 29 Sep 91

[Perica Djakovic report on news conference by Momir Bulatovic, president of the Montenegrin Presidency, in Herceg Novi on 28 September—recorded]

[Text] [Djakovic] When asked to comment on the fact that on 27 September the Croatian Guard launched eight grenades at the village (?Maltrug) which is not a military installation but Montenegrin territory, Momir Bulatovic said:

[Begin Bulatovic recording] Unfortunately, this does not come as a surprise at all. One must only look at the timing. Those mines were launched just at the time when the EC observers mission was passing by and it was more or less expected that our side would respond. Therefore, it would appear that we are the ones violating the cease-fire and attacking this territory. According to our information, it is perfectly obvious that some of the extremist Croatian armed forces are strolling undisturbed on the territory of Bosnia-Hercegovina. I am genuinely puzzled as to why Alija Izetbegovic [president of the Bosnia-Hercegovina Presidency] sent such a letter only to me and not to [Croatian President] Mr. Tudjman

as well. Adherence to principles, which Izetbegovic advocates so much, would require that a similar letter arrives to my address only after it has been addressed to Mr. Tudjman, as these forces were situated in Bosnia-Hercegovina before the Montenegrin reservists in the units of the Yugoslav Peoples' Army [YPA] arrived on the territory of eastern Hercegovina. [end recording]

[Djakovic] One of the questions asked during the talks with Momir Bulatovic last night pertained to the current security situation on the border between Montenegro and Croatia.

[Begin Bulatovic recording] On the basis of what we could see and of what I announced at the beginning, I believe that our defense preparations have been carried out in full and that we are completely ready. Unfortunately, the security situation cannot be good if one has such forces on the other side that ignore all arguments—political, and I would also say, military— and are willing to continue with attacks and provocations. It is hard to find any rational explanation for their behavior. [end recording]

[Djakovic] Asked to comment on the latest statements by Stipe Mesic, president of the SFRY Presidency, among which was the statement that the YPA uses chemical weapons, Momir Bulatovic stated the following:

[Begin Bulatovic recording] I do not think that either the world or Yugoslavia takes Mr. Mesic seriously anymore. [end recording]

Opposition Calls for Vukcevic To Resign

LD2809142791 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0959 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Excerpt] Titograd, 26 Sep (TANJUG)—As a result of the unprecedented insult against the entire Montenegrin opposition by Montenegrin Assembly President Risto Vukcevic, referring to it as a "common band of traitors," we call for his irrevocable resignation. This is not the first time that the Assembly president has seriously insulted the opposition, and if he does not resign from his post the opposition parties will cease attending sessions of the Montenegrin Assembly for as long as he is its president.

This is stressed in a statement for the public of the eight opposition parties—seven of them parliamentary—in which they voice their protest at the insult directed at them by the Montenegrin Assembly president yesterday when the leaders of these parties walked out of an unsuccessful meeting between the Montenegrin opposition and government.

The statement of the opposition parties recalls that they stand by their stand that, because of the obvious lack of objectivity of the state media and the unlimited opportunities for manipulation of public opinion to the detriment of the opposition, the scheduled meeting with the government can only be held before the public—that is, relayed live on television. [passage omitted]